

ARMY



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REGULAR

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AND VOLUNTEER
FORCES.

VOLUME XVII.—NUMBER 22.
WHOLE NUMBER 854.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1880.

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General TODLEBEN states: "The number of Turkish bullets which fell among the Russian ranks, when they were still 2,000 yards away from the defenders position, was such, that divisions which, at the outset, numbered from 10,000 to 12,000 men, were speedily reduced to a strength of from 4,000 to 5,000; in other words, they lost half their effectives."

Captain KOUROPATKINE, speaking of the attack upon Loftcha, states: "At 2,000 yards from the Turkish position, Russian soldiers were struck down by the defenders' bullets, and at 1,500 yards men were falling rapidly on all sides."

General ZEDDELER, of the Russian Guard, states: "The Russians began to suffer loss at 3,000 paces from the defenders' position," "at 2,000 paces men were falling rapidly, and as the attack progressed, the reserves suffered nearly as much as the firing line."

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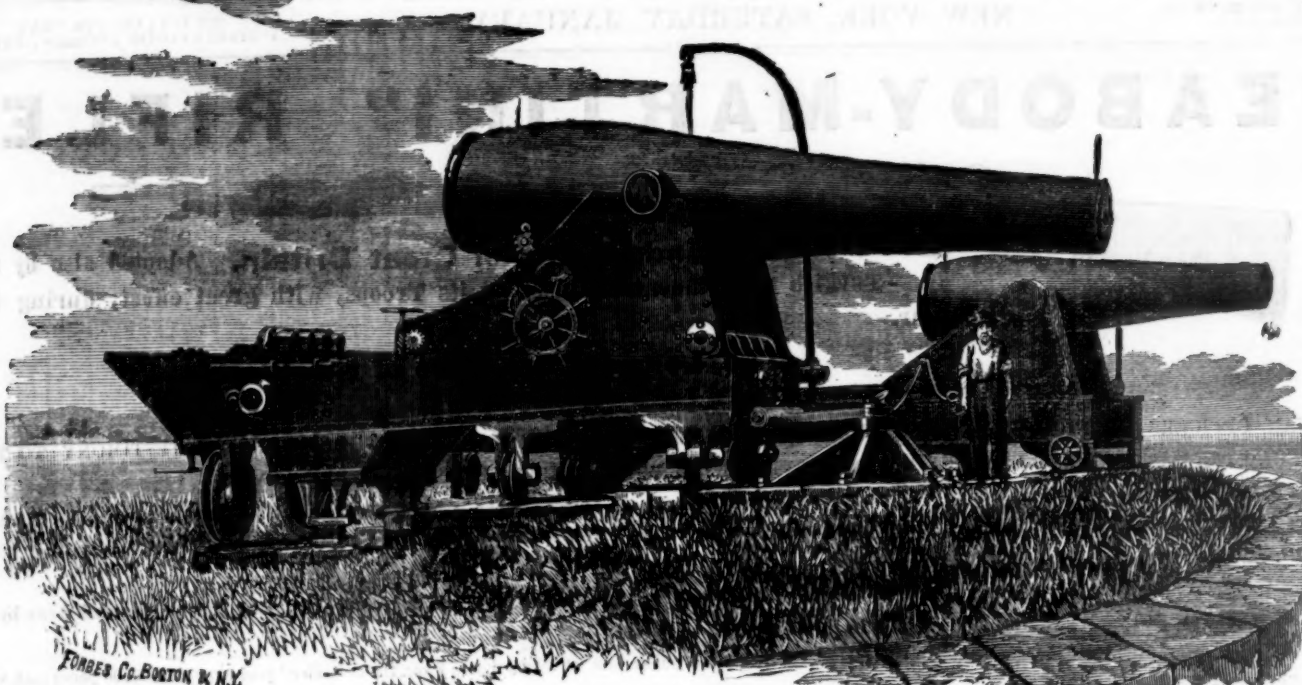
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THE ARMY.

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H. J. Crosby, *Chief Clerk, War Department.*

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, *Adjutant-General.*
Brig.-General Randolph B. Marcy, *Inspector-General.*
Brig.-General Wm. M. K. Dunn, *Judge-Advocate-General.*
Colonel (with assigned rank of Brigadier-General) Albert J. Myer,
Chief Signal Officer.
Brig.-General Montgomery C. Meigs, *Quartermaster-General.*
Brigadier-General R. Macfadyen, *Commissionary Gen. of Subsistence.*
Brigadier-General Jos. K. Barnes, *Surgeon-General.*
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Brigadier-General Horatio G. Wright, *Chief of Engineers.*
Brigadier-General Stephen V. Benét, *Chief of Ordnance.*

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

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Hdqrs, St. Paul, Minn. Major Geo. D. Ruggles, A. A. G.

District of Montana.—Colonel T. H. Ruger, 18th Infantry,
commanding District: Headquarters, Helena, Mont. 1st Lieut.
Robt. Bates, Adjt. 18th Infantry, A. A. G.

District of the Yellowstone.—Col. N. A. Miles, 5th Infantry,
Headquarters, Fort Keogh, M. T. Capt. Frank D. Baldwin, Co. K,
5th Infantry, A. A. G.

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Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. Maj. R. R. Platt, A. A. G.

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Hdqrs, Santa Fe, N. M. 1st Lieut. John S. Lund, 9th Cav., A. A. G.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.—Brigadier-General Geo. Crook:
Hdqrs, Fort Omaha, Neb. Lieut.-Col. Robert Williams, A. A. G.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.—Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord:
Hdqrs, San Antonio, Texas. Major Thomas M. Vincent, A. A. G.

District of the Rio Grande.—Col. George Sykes, 20th Infantry,
Hdqrs, Fort Brown, Texas. 1st Lieut. J. B. Rodman, 20th In-
fantry, A. A. G.

District of the Nueces.—Col. D. S. Stanley, 22d Infantry,
Hdqrs, Fort Clark, Tex. 1st Lieut. H. H. Ketchum, Adjutant 22d
Infantry, A. A. G.

District of the Pecos.—Colonel B. H. Grierson, 10th Cavalry,
Hdqrs, Ft. Concho, Tex. 1st Lieut. Robert G. Smith, 10th Cav.,
A. A. G.

District of North Texas.—Lieut.-Col. E. S. Otis, 22d Infantry,
commanding. Hdqrs, Fort McKavett, Tex. 1st Lieut. J. McA.
Webster, 22d Inf., A. A. G.

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Col. J. B. Fry, A. A. G.

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AND DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

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Lieut.-Colonel John C. Kelton, A. A. G.

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Hdqrs, Vancouver Bks, Wash. T. Major O. D. Greene, A. A. G.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.—Brig.-Gen. O. B. Wilcox:
Colonel 12th Infantry: Hdqrs, Whipple Bks, Prescott, Arizona.
Major J. P. Martin, A. A. G.

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Major-General John M. Schofield: Hdqrs, West Point, N. Y.
Captain Wm. M. Wherry, A. D. C., Act. A. A. G.

Major-General S. M. Schofield, Superintendent, U. S. M. A.
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David's Island, N. Y. H.—Lt.-Col. Zenas B. Bliss, 19th Inf., comd'g.

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Baltimore, Md., 218 W. Pratt st.—Capt. Edmund Butler, 5th Inf.

Boston, Mass., 18 Portland st.—Capt. William F. Drum, 2d Inf.

Buffalo, N. Y., 55 Pearl st.—Capt. Gaines Lawson, 25th Inf.

Cincinnati, O., Cor. 4th and

Sycamore sts.—Capt. Jacob Kline, 18th Inf.

Chicago, Ill., 9 South Clark st.—Capt. William H. Jordan, 9th Inf.

Cleveland, O., 142 Seneca st.—Capt. J. A. P. Hampton, 10th Inf.

Harrisburg, Pa., 17 North 3d st.—Capt. E. C. Woodruff, 12th Inf.

Indianapolis, Ind., 15 West

Washington st.—Capt. C. J. Von Herrmann, 4th Inf.

Nashville, Tenn., 94 Cherry st.—1st Lieut. H. Wygant, 24th Inf.

New York City, 100 Walker st.—Capt. J. S. Fletcher, Jr., 16th Inf.

New York City, 109 West st.—Capt. C. McKibbin, 15th Inf.

St. Louis, Mo., 112 North 3d st.—Capt. James H. Gageby, 3d Inf.

Washington, D. C., 1221 H st.—Capt. Henry C. Corbin, 94th Inf.

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1st Lieut. Chas. Morton, 3d Cavalry, Adjutant and Treasurer.

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Surgeon Ed. P. Vollum, Dep. Surgeon.

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CIRCULAR 42, DEPT. TEXAS, Dec. 19, 1879.

Directs post commanders, in forwarding target reports of
their commands, to enumerate the companies which have
failed to participate in the practice, and state the cause
thereof.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

GENERAL OFFICERS.—Leave of absence for three months,
from Jan. 3, 1880, with permission of the President to travel
beyond the limits of the United States, for the benefit of his
health, is granted Lieut.-Gen. P. H. Sheridan, who will be
attended by one of his aides. During his absence from his
command, the usual reports and returns will continue to be
sent as heretofore to his headquarters at Chicago, and such
as need higher action will be sent thence to the General of
the Army at Washington. When time is material the Comd'g
Generals of the Depts. composing the Mil. Div. of the Mo.
may correspond direct with the General through the Adjut-
ant-General of the Army, sending copies to the Div. Hdqrs.
(S. O., Dec. 30, W. D.)

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.—Col. Stewart Van Vliet,
A. Q. M. Gen., will, during the temporary absence of Brig-
Gen. M. C. Meigs, act as Q. M. Gen. (S. O., Dec. 30, W. D.)
Capt. A. J. McGonigle, A. Q. M., will, in addition to his
present duties, perform those of Depot and Purchasing Com-
of Sub. at New Orleans, La., relieving Lieut. J. M. Baldwin,
5th Artillery, on the 1st proximo (S. O. 133, Dec. 29, D. S.)

Leave of absence for one month, on Surgeon's cert., is
granted Capt. E. B. Atwood, Asst. Q. M., Fort Worth, Texas
(S. O. 269, Dec. 22, D. T.)

Capt. T. J. Eckerson, A. Q. M., will report to the C. O.
District of the Rio Grande for duty as Chief and Disbursing
Q. M. of that district. In addition, he will be charged with
the duties of Shipping and Receiving Q. M. at Brazos Santia-
go, and Point Isabel, Texas; also, the care of the National
Cemetery at Brownsville (S. O. 269, Dec. 22, D. T.)

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—The leave of absence granted
Asst. Surg. Henry McEldeery is extended seven days (S. O.
229, Dec. 26, D. E.)

Hosp. Steward William B. Coyle (recently appointed from
Co. D, 6th Cavalry) is assigned to duty at Camp Thomas,
A. T. (S. O. 159, Dec. 16, D. A.)

1st Lieut. Wm. B. Davis, member G. C.-M. Fort Totten,
D. T., Dec. 30 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

1st Lieut. B. Barnett, Asst. Surg., member G. C.-M. Fort
Omaha, Neb., Jan. 2 (S. O. 119, Dec. 21, D. P.)

Capt. W. H. King, member G. C.-M. Fort Sully, D. T., Jan.
2 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

Surg. John H. Janeway will proceed to Morristown, N. J.,
on public business (S. O. 231, Dec. 29, D. E.)

Hosp. Steward William La Parle, now at Fort Fred. Steele,
W. T., will report to the C. O. of that post for duty (S. O. 117,
Dec. 20, D. P.)

Lieut.-Col. Elihu I. Baily, Surg., is relieved from duty as
member of the G. C.-M. instituted by par. 2, S. O. 156, c. s.,
from Hdqrs Dept. Columbia (S. O. 181, Dec. 6, D. C.)

Leave of absence for six months is granted Asst. Surgeon
John H. Bartholf (S. O., Dec. 24, W. D.)

The C. O. District of the Nueces will select one of the
Hospital Stewards now serving at Fort Clark, Texas, and di-
rect him to report to the C. O. Fort Stockton, Tex., for duty
at that post (S. O. 270, Dec. 23, D. T.)

Asst. Surg. B. D. Taylor will report to the Comd'g Gen.
Dept. of the East for duty (S. O., Dec. 27, W. D.)

The following changes in the stations and duties of Medi-
cal officers are announced: Asst. Surg. R. H. White, from
duty in the Dept. of Texas, and will proceed to N. Y. City;
Asst. Surg. W. B. Hall, from duty in the Dept. of the Colum-
bia, and, upon the expiration of his present leave of absence,
will proceed to N. Y. City; Asst. Surg. D. M. Appel, from
duty in the Dept. of the Mo., and, upon the expiration of his
present leave of absence, will proceed to N. Y. City (S. O.,
Dec. 29, W. D.)

Surg. E. P. Vollum is relieved from the special duty in
N. Y. City to which he was assigned by S. O. 183, August 7,
1879, W. D., and will resume his station at Jefferson Bks,
Mo., stopping en route at the Jeffersonville Depot of the
Q. M. Dept. to confer with Capt. Addison Barrett, Military
Storekeeper. Surg. Vollum will turn over to the Army Medi-
cal Board in New York all matters relating to the inspection
of veterinary instruments, with which he was specially charged
(S. O., Dec. 26, W. D.)

PAY DEPARTMENT.—Leave of absence for one month is
granted Col. D. McClure, Asst. Paymaster-Gen., Chief Pay-
master of the Dept. of the Mo., to take effect on Jan. 1 (S.
O. 259, D. M.)

The following assignment of Paymasters is made for the
payment of troops to Dec. 31: Major W. A. Rucker, Forts
Riley, Hays, and Wallace, Kas.; Forts Garland and Lyon,
Colo., and Fort Union, N. M.; Major W. H. Johnston, Caval-
ry Depot and Jefferson Bks, Mo.; Baxter Springs, Kas., and
Forts Gibson and Sill, Ind. T.; Major W. B. Gibson, Fort
Leavenworth, Kas., and at the Leavenworth Military Prison;
Major Frank Bridgman, Chicago and Rock Island Arsenal,
Ill.; Maj. J. A. Brodhead, Fort Dodge, Kas.; Fort Supply,
I. T.; Fort Elliott, Texas, Cantonment on North Fort Cana-
dian River, and Fort Reno, I. T.; Arkansas City and Wichita,
Kas.; Majors T. C. H. Smith and G. W. Baird, all payments
in the District of New Mexico—not provided for above (S. O.
258, Dec. 26, D. M.)

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—Leave of absence for three
months is granted Capt. Frederick Whyte, Ord. Storekeeper
(S. O., Dec. 24, W. D.)

Ord. Sergt. Henry B. Dardinger, now on duty at Fort
Morgan, Ala., will proceed to Mount Vernon Bks, Ala., for
discharge and re-enlistment. After re-enlistment he will re-
turn to his proper station (S. O., Dec. 26, W. D.)

THE LINE.

1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.—Headquarters
and A. B. K. M. Fort Walla Walla, Wash. T.; D. Camp Howard,
Idaho T.; C. Fort Bidwell, Cal.; G. Fort Boise, Idaho T.;
I. Fort Halleck, Nev.; H. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; L. Fort Klam-
ath, Ore.; E. Fort Lapwai, Idaho T.; F. Fort Harney, Ore.

2ND CAVALRY, Col. J. W. Davidson.—Headquarters
and C. F. G. M. Fort Custer, M. T.; A. B. E. Fort Keogh, M. T.;
D. K. Fort Ellis, M. T.; H. L. Fort Assiniboine, M. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—1st Lieut. M. E. O'Brien, member, G.
C.-M. at Cavalry Depot, Jefferson Bks, Mo., Jan. 5 (S. O.,
Dec. 30, W. D.)

3RD CAVALRY, Colonel A. G. Brackett.—Headquarters
and H. K. L. M. Fort Laramie, Wy. T.; A. B. D. P. Fort Sanders,
Wy. T.; C. Fort Robinson, Neb.; G. Camp Sheridan, Neb.; E.
I. Fort Fred. Steele, Wy. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—2d Lieut. G. F. Chase, member, G.
C.-M. Fort Omaha, Neb., Jan. 2 (S. O. 119, Dec. 24, D. P.)
1st Lieut. Chas. Morton, member, G. C.-M. Cavalry Depot,
Jefferson Bks, Mo., Jan. 5 (S. O., Dec. 30, W. D.)

Leave of Absence.—One month, Lieut.-Col. William B.
Royall, Act. Asst. Insp.-Gen. of the Dept. of Platte. One
month, to apply for extension of two months, Major Julius
W. Mason, Fort Fetterman, W. T. (S. O. 117, Dec. 20, D. P.)
One month, on Surg. certificate, 2d Lieut. Arthur C. Ducat,
Jr., Fort Sanders, W. T. (S. O. 118, Dec. 23, D. P.)

Board for Examination.—A Board of Officers, to consist of
Col. Albert G. Brackett, Capt. Henry W. Wessells, Jr., Peter
D. Vroom, 1st Lieut. James F. Simpson, R. Q. M., and
Bainbridge Reynolds, Adjt., was ordered to meet at Fort
Laramie, W. T., on Jan. 5, to examine into and report upon
the qualifications of Sergt. Carter P. Johnson, Co. F, for
promotion to the grade of 2d Lieutenant in the Army (S. O.
117, Dec. 20, D. P.)

4TH CAVALRY, Col. R. S. Mackenzie.—Headquarters
and A. D. E. K. L. M. Fort Hays, Kas.; G. H. Fort Reno,
Ind. T.; C. F. Fort Sill, Ind. T.; I. Fort Supply, Ind. T.; B. Fort
Elliott, Tex.

5TH CAVALRY, Colonel W. Merritt.—Headquarters
and A. B. C. D. E. F. I. K. M. Fort D. A. Russell, Wy. T.; H.
Fort McPherson, Neb.; G. L. Fort Washakie, Wy. T.

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of
one month, Major Edwin W. Sumner, Camp at White River,
Colo. (S. O. 120, Dec. 26, D. P.)

6TH CAVALRY, Col. Eugene A. Carr.—Headquarters
and M. Fort Lowell, A. T.; A. P. Fort Grant, A. T.; B. Camp
Husachuca, A. T.; C. L. Fort Bowie, A. T.; E. D. Fort Apache,
A. T.; H. K. Fort Verde, A. T.; I. Fort McDowell, A. T.; G.
Camp Thomas, A. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—1st Lieut. C. G. Gordon, member, G.
C.-M. Cavalry Depot, Jefferson Bks, Mo., Jan. 5 (S. O., Dec.
30, W. D.)

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters
and A. C. E. G. H. M. Fort Meade, D. T.; I. L. Fort A. Lincoln,
D. T.; F. K. Fort Totten, D. T.; B. D. Fort Yates, D. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—1st Lieut. J. W. Wilkinson, member,
and 1st Lieut. Chas. A. Varnum, J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort A.
Lincoln, D. T., Dec. 29 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

Capt. J. M. Bell, E. G. Mathey, 1st Lieut. H. L. Scott,
members, G. C.-M. Fort Totten, D. T., Dec. 30 (S. O. 142,
Dec. 23, D. D.)

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Heber M. Creel, fifty days (S.
O. 146, Dec. 30, M. D. M.)

8TH CAVALRY, Colonel Thos. H. Neill.—Headquarters
and G. Fort Ringgold, Tex.; I. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. C. D. H. L.
M. Fort Clark, Tex.; E. San Diego, Tex.; F. Fort McIntosh; B.
Fort Duncan, Tex.; K. San Felipe, Tex.

Assigned.—1st Lieut. H. S. Weeks is assigned to temporary
duty with a company of 9th Cavalry stationed at Fort Bayard,
N. M. (S. O. 259, Dec. 27, D. M.)

9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.—Headquarters,
Santa Fe, N. M.; L. Fort Bliss, Tex.; A. G. Fort Stanton,
N. M.; B. C. F. H. M. Fort Bayard, N. M.; E. Fort Union,
N. M.; I. Fort Wingate, N. M.; D. K. Fort Lewis, Colo.

G. C.-M. Service.—2d Lieut. M. D. Parker, member, G.
C.-M. Cavalry Depot, Jefferson Bks, Mo., Jan. 5 (S. O., Dec.
30, W. D.)

Hop.—The members of the 9th Cavalry Band gave a
"Grand Hop" on Christmas night, at Fort Marcy, N. M.,
which was numerously attended. During the interval of
dances a supper was provided, which gave general satisfac-
tion. We notice amongst the pieces played "General Hatch's
Choice," and "Captain Dodge's Relief." These are evidently
local, but we hope soon to hear them in the East.

10TH CAVALRY, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.—
Headquarters and D. F. M. Fort Concho, Tex.; A. G. I. Fort
Sill, I. T.; C. H. K. Fort Davis, Tex.; B. L. Fort Stockton,
Tex.; E. San Felipe, Tex.

G. C.-M. Service.—Capt. S. T. Norvell, W. B. Kennedy,
A. S. B. Keyes, J. M. Kelley, 1st Lieut. C. E. Nordstrom,
members, G. C.-M. at Fort Concho, Tex., Dec. 26 (S. O. 267,
Dec. 19, D. T.)

Lieut.-Col. J. F. Wade and 2d Lieut. Leighton Finley,
members, G. C.-M. at Cavalry Depot, Jefferson Bks, Mo.,
Jan. 5 (S. O., Dec. 30, W. D.)

Capt. P. L. Lee—G. C. M., O. 71, Hdqrs. A. A. G. O.,
Dec. 15, publish the proceedings of a court at Fort Riley,
Kansas, Nov. 14, 1879, of which Col. Israel Vogdes, 1st Artil-
lery, is president, in the case of Capt. Lee. The charge of
conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman was sup-
ported by twelve specifications, on all of which the accused
was found "guilty," but not guilty of the charge, but
"Guilty of conduct to the prejudice of good order and mili-
tary discipline." And the court does therefore sentence
him "To be severely reprimanded in General Orders by the
General of the Army; to be suspended from rank and com-
mand for the period of one year; to be confined to the
limits of such post as the General of the Army may design-
ate, and to forfeit one-half of his pay per month for the
same period." The character of the specifications is indicated
in the following summing up by Gen. Sherman: The General
of the Army, in reviewing the testimony in the cases of Capt.
Philip L. Lee, 10th Cavalry, and of Col. J. B. Davidson,
formerly of the same regiment, and on recalling the corre-
spondence covering the subject-matter involved in these two
cases, observes that Capt. Lee was with his company, which
formed a part of the garrison of Fort Sill, in the Indian Ter-
ritory, of which Lieut.-Col. Davidson was the commanding
officer. Instead of assisting his commanding officer cheer-
fully and effectually in his delicate and most important office,
Capt. Lee seems to have principally occupied his time in
picking up from his brother officers and from soldiers pieces
of scandal, which in due time he moulded into charges and
specifications, which, if proven, would have deprived Col.
Davidson of his commission, which he had earned by valua-
ble service in the Mexican war, in the civil war, and in a long
career on the Western frontier. These charges and specifi-
cations having been submitted to the Department Commander,
General Pope, were pronounced "frivolous," and a trial
thereon denied. Appeal was made to Army headquarters,
where the decision of the department commander was sus-
tained. When Lieut.-Col. Davidson was promoted to be
Colonel of the 2d Cavalry, Capt. Lee renewed these charges
in substance, and the general, deeming it wise that Col.
Davidson should not reach his new command followed by

these matters of scandal and imputation, ordered his trial by a strong and impartial court, and he, Col. Davidson, was honorably acquitted of every material item of charge, Capt. Lee himself having been heard as a witness. By every rule of justice and fairness, the acquittal of Col. Davidson should have worked the dismissal of Capt. Lee; but such was not the law, and there was no alternative but to try Capt. Lee himself. The sentence of the court in his case is, "That he forfeit one-half his pay for one year, be confined for the same period at such military post as the General may appoint, and be reprimanded in General Orders." The President having approved the sentence, it only remains for the general to indicate the place and to execute the reprimand. Fort Concho, Texas, the headquarters of the 10th Cavalry, is named as the place of confinement. The general thinks a mere statement of the case should be all the reprimand required, if Capt. Lee possessed that delicate sense of honor and duty which should characterize every officer of the Army. In the first place, cumulative charges are universally construed by all military authors as obnoxious "and contrary to the principles of justice," but the *gravamen* of the offence in Capt. Lee's case was in acting as a sort of spy upon his commanding officer, who received his orders from and was accountable for his conduct to his department commander, and not to the officers of his own command. Other officers at the same post, two of whose names only are given in the record, seem to have been engaged in the same bad practice; but this fact does not palliate the conduct of Capt. Lee, but aggravates it, for numbers make a conspiracy—the highest crime known to military law. The general believes the penalty imposed by the court on Capt. Lee was totally inadequate to the offence proven; but he has no lawful power to increase it, and therefore orders its rigid execution. By direction of the Secretary of War, the sentence in the case of Capt. P. L. Lee, 10th Cavalry, will take effect January 1, 1880. By order of the President of the United States, the general court-martial of which Col. Israel Vogdes, 1st Artillery, is president, is hereby dissolved.

1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel Israel Vogdes.—Headquarters and H. E. F. K. Fort Adams, R. I.; I. L. Fort Warren, Mass.; C. M. Fort Trumbull, Conn.; H. Fort Preble, Me.; G. Fort Monroe, Va.; A. D. Fort Columbus, N. Y. H.

Leave of Absence.—From Jan. 1, 1880, to May 20, 1880, 2d Lieut. Edwin McNeill (S. O., Dec. 24, W. D.)

Resigned.—The resignation of 2d Lieut. Edwin McNeill has been accepted by the President, to take effect May 20, 1880 (S. O., Dec. 24, W. D.)

Christmas at Fort Adams.—The children of the enlisted men at Fort Adams were agreeably surprised Christmas eve, 1st Lieut. T. H. Barber and lady being the donors and by their generosity making the little ones happy and each of the little hearts beat with gratitude. The arrangements, under the personal auspices of Lieut. Barber, were carried out as follows: The parents were notified to assemble with their children at 5 p. m. in the Post library, which was decorated in appropriate style. A gigantic tree was erected in the centre of the room, decorated with all that confectioner's art and toymaker's skill could produce, besides a useful present for each child. By previous inquiry Lieut. Barber secured the name, sex, and age, and thus the gifts were admirably suited to the recipient. The full orchestra of the band was stationed at one end of the room, and when the little community assembled, they struck up a march and the happy ones marched by pairs around the tree. As they marched around for the third time each child's name was called and the gift appropriated to him, handed, together with a share of the plumage of the tree. The children will doubtless remember Lieut. Barber and his wife for years to come.—*Newport News.*

2ND ARTILLERY, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.—Headquarters and A. D. M. Fort McKimby, Md.; C. Fort Johnston, S. C.; E. G. Fort Brown, Tex.; K. Fort Monroe, Va.; B. H. Washington Arsenal, D. C.; I. Fort Ontario, N. Y.; F. L. Fort Clark, Tex.

Change of Station.—Light Bat. I., now on duty in the Dist. of the Neucos, will form part of the regular garrison at Fort Clark, Tex. (S. O. 267, Dec. 19, D. T.)

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. Clarence O. Howard, Adj., seven days (S. O. 230, Dec. 27, D. E.)

3RD ARTILLERY, Col. George W. Getty.—Headquarters and C. D. L. M. Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H.; A. Fort Monroe, Va.; E. I. Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H.; B. Fort Niagara, N. Y.; H. Madison Bks, N. Y.; K. Plattsburg Bks, N. Y.; F. G. Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

4TH ARTILLERY, Col. W. H. French.—Headquarters and H. E. Angel Island, Cal.; C. L. Alcatraz Island, Cal.; M. Fort Stevens, Or.; G. Fort Canby, Wash. T.; I. Fort Monroe, Va.; A. K. Fort Point, Cal.; F. Point San Jose, Cal.; B. D. Presidio, Cal.

5TH ARTILLERY, Col. Henry J. Hunt.—Headquarters and D. E. F. I. M. Atlanta, Ga.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. L. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; G. H. Key West, Fla.; C. Fort Monroe, Va.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. S. A. Day is charged with the transfer of the U. S. property in Charleston, S. C., known as the "Arsenal," to the Rev. A. Toomer Porter, D. D., as ordered by G. O. 114, H. Q. A., 1879. The Ordnance Sergeant will remain in charge of the public property until disposed of, occupying his present quarters and reporting completion of the work to Hdqrs Dept. South (S. O. 192, Dec. 27, D. S.)

To Join.—Lieut. J. M. Baldwin, when relieved as Depot and Purchasing C. of S. at New Orleans, will join his battery (S. O. 198, Dec. 29, D. S.)

1ST INFANTRY, Colonel William R. Shafter.—Headquarters and A. C. E. I. Fort Randall, D. T.; B. G. Fort Hale, D. T.; D. F. H. K. Fort Meade, D. T.

2ND INFANTRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.—Headquarters and A. B. G. Fort Ceur d'Alene, Idaho T.; F. Fort Harney, Ore.; C. H. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; D. E. I. K. New Post on Columbia River, W. T.

Lieut. Turner.—Before a General Court-martial which convened at Fort Walla Walla, W. T., Nov. 20, 1879, and of which Lieut.-Col. Alexander Chambers, 21st Inf., is president, was arraigned and tried 2d Lieut. William J. Turner, 2d Inf. Charge—"Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." (The specifications allege an assault upon Capt. Chas. Keller, forcing him "into a disorderly disturbance or fight." The court find the accused guilty of this, but acquit him of the charge of having made the assault "without provocation," and "to the discredit and scandal of the service," etc.) Sentence—"To be reprimanded in General Orders by the Reviewing Authority, and to be confined to the limits of the post where his company may be serving for the period of four months." In the foregoing case of 2d Lieut. William J. Turner, 2d Inf., the proceedings and findings are approved; the sentence is confirmed, and will be duly executed. In fulfillment of the duty enjoined by the sentence of the court, the Department Commander cannot but feel a strong sympathy for an officer who receives so terrible a provocation as

this directed at Lieut. Turner, and, while the Department Commander conveys the reprimand due to the military offence of Lieut. Turner, he is gratified to perceive that the court, with just discrimination, has awarded a punishment that, under ordinary circumstances, would have been entirely inadequate to the offence (G. C.-M. O. 46, Dec. 11, D. C.)

3RD INFANTRY, Colonel John R. Brooke.—Headquarters and C. F. G. Fort Shaw, M. T.; A. Fort Benton, M. T.; K. Fort Logan, M. T.; B. D. H. I. Missoula City, M. T.; E. Fort Ellis.

4TH INFANTRY, Colonel Franklin F. Flint.—Headquarters and B. C. F. Fort Sanders, W. T.; E. H. Fort Fred. Steele, W. T.; A. G. Fort Fetterman, W. T.; D. K. Fort Laramie, W. T.; I. Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—Capt. Samuel P. Ferris is detailed a member G. C.-M. convened at Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., by par. 3, S. O. 113, and par. 5, S. O. 114, from Dept. Platte (S. O. 113, Dec. 23, D. P.)

5TH INFANTRY, Colonel Nelson A. Miles.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Fort Keogh, M. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—2d Lieut. J. M. T. Partello, member, G. C.-M. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., Dec. 29 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

6TH INFANTRY, Colonel William B. Hazen.—Headquarters and C. D. E. I. Fort Buford, D. T.; A. F. G. Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T.; H. K. Fort Stevenson, D. T.; B. Cantonment on Little Missouri River.

G. C.-M. Service.—Capt. William W. Sanders, 1st Lieut. Russell H. Day, Richard T. Jacob, Jr., members, G. C.-M. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., Dec. 29 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Charles Byrne, three months (S. O., Dec. 29, W. D.)

2d Lieut. A. L. Wagner, further extended one month (S. O., Dec. 29, W. D.)

7TH INFANTRY, Colonel John Gibbon.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Fort Snelling, Minn.

8TH INFANTRY, Col. August V. Kautz.—Headquarters and B. F. H. K. Benicia Bks, Cal.; C. Fort McDermitt, Nev.; D. Fort Bidwell, Cal.; E. Fort Gaston, Cal.; G. Fort Halleck, Nev.; I. San Diego Bks, Cal.; A. Fort Yuma, Cal.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Colville P. Terrett, eight days (S. O., Dec. 30, W. D.)

9TH INFANTRY, Colonel John H. King.—Headquarters and G. H. Fort Omaha, Neb.; A. D. Fort McKinney, W. T.; I. Fort McPherson, Neb.; E. Camp at Cheyenne Depot, W. T.; B. Fort Sidney, Neb.; C. Fort Hartsuff, Neb.; F. K. Snake Creek, Colo.

Detached Service.—Capt. G. B. Russell, A. D. C., Inspector Dept. South, will proceed to Memphis, Tenn., New Orleans, La., and Mobile, Ala., and inspect the money accounts of the disbursing officers (S. O. 191, Dec. 26, D. S.)

G. C.-M. Service.—Major William T. Gentry, Capt. Alfred Morton, 1st Lieut. Morris C. Foot, Adj., William E. Hoffman, William L. Carpenter, members, and 1st Lieut. James Regan, B. Q. M., J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Omaha, Neb., Jan. 2 (S. O. 119, Dec. 24, D. P.)

Leave of Absence.—Ten days, 2d Lieut. Edgar B. Robertson, Fort Omaha, Neb. (S. O. 117, Dec. 20, D. P.)

One month, Capt. Edwin Pollock, Camp at Cheyenne Depot, W. T. (S. O. 118, Dec. 23, D. P.)

Fifteen days, 2d Lieut. Charles P. Stivers, Fort Hartsuff, Neb. (S. O. 120, Dec. 26, D. P.)

10TH INFANTRY, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.—Headquarters and A. E. H. K. Fort Wayne, Mich.; F. G. Fort Porter, N. Y.; B. I. Fort Brady, Mich.; C. D. Fort Mackinac, Mich.

Leave Extended.—Capt. William L. Kellogg, seven days (S. O. 231, Dec. 29, D. E.)

11TH INFANTRY, Colonel William H. Wood.—Headquarters and A. K. Fort Sully, D. T.; E. G. I. Fort Bennett, D. T.; B. C. F. H. Fort Custer, M. T.; D. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—Col. William H. Wood, Major Charles G. Bartlett, Capt. George L. Choisy, Major Jackson, William N. Sage, 1st Lieut. Leon A. Mattie, Ralph W. Hoyt, B. Q. M., 2d Lieut. James E. Macklin, members, and 1st Lieut. George G. Lott, Regt. Adj., J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Sully, D. T., Jan. 2 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

Capt. W. C. Beach, 1st Lieut. C. F. Roe, members, G. C.-M. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., Dec. 29 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

Fort Sully.—"Sully—what shall I say of Sully?" writes a correspondent of the *Yankton Herald*. "Situated upon high ground; one of the most beautiful posts on the river; commanded as it is by the ever popular Major Charles G. Bartlett, assisted by Lieut. Jas. E. Macklin as post adjutant, quartermaster, commissary, etc., or more commonly known as the 'man of titles.' Coupled with these features the rendezvous of all at the post is the store of N. H. Young, post trader, who has the finest trading store on the river, an example of neatness and taste in its arrangement and stock."

12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.—Headquarters and A. Fort Whipple, A. T.; B. K. Fort Verde, A. T.; C. Fort Apache, A. T.; E. Camp J. A. Rucker, A. T.; G. Fort McDowell, A. T.; D. H. Camp Thomas, A. T.; I. Fort Grant, A. T.; F. Fort Mojave, A. T.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. William L. Geary, further extended four months (S. O., Dec. 29, W. D.)

13TH INFANTRY, Colonel Luther P. Bradley.—Headquarters and A. D. H. I. Jackson Barracks, La.; B. G. Mount Vernon, Ala.; C. E. K. Little Rock Bks, Ark.; F. Newport Bks, Ky.

14TH INFANTRY, Col. John E. Smith.—Headquarters and D. E. F. H. I. K. Fort Douglas, Utah; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; B. C. G. Fort Cameron, U. T.

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel George P. Buell.—Headquarters and D. K. Fort Wingate, N. M.; F. Fort Union, N. M.; E. Fort Bayard, N. M.; C. Fort Stanton, N. M.; B. I. Fort Lewis, Colo.; A. G. Fort Bliss, Tex.; H. Fort Marcy, N. M.

16TH INFANTRY, Colonel G. Pennypacker.—Headquarters and A. C. H. Fort Riley, Kas.; K. I. Fort Reno, Ind. T.; B. D. K. Fort Sill, Ind. T.; F. G. Fort Hancock, Kas.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. William Lassiter, five months on Surg. certificate (S. O., Dec. 30, W. D.)

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas L. Crittenden.—Headquarters and B. D. H. I. Fort Yates, D. T.; C. Fort Totten, D. T.; G. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; A. F. Fort Sisseton, D. T.; E. K. Fort Pembina, D. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—Major Joseph S. Conrad, Capt. Malcolm McArthur, 1st Lieut. Frank D. Garretty, members, and 2d Lieut. James D. Nickerson, J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Totten, D. T., Dec. 30 (S. O. 142, Dec. 23, D. D.)

18TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.—Headquarters and A. B. C. E. F. K. Fort Assiniboine, Montana; G. H. Fort Shaw, M. T.; I. Fort Logan, Mont. T.; D. Fort Ellis, Mont. T.

*** On detached service** at Coal Banks, Missouri River, M. T.

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.—Headquarters and B. D. E. F. H. Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; A. K. Fort Lyon, C. T.; C. G. I. Fort Dodge, Kas.

*** On temporary duty** at Baxter Springs, Kas.

Leave of Absence.—Twenty days, 2d Lieut. H. B. Steele, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 259, Dec. 27, D. M.)

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. George K. Spencer, ten days (S. O. 258, Dec. 26, D. M.)

20TH INFANTRY, Colonel Geo. Sykes.—Headquarters and B. D. G. I. K. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. San Antonio, Tex.; C. E. F. H. Fort Clark, Tex.

Change of Station.—On Dec. 22, Co. A was ordered to take post at the barracks near the San Antonio Depot (S. O. 268, Dec. 20, D. T.)

21ST INFANTRY, Colonel H. A. Morrow.—Headquarters and C. E. G. K. Vancouver Bks, Wash. T.; A. Boise Bks, Idaho T.; H. Fort Harney, Or.; F. Fort Klamath, Or.; B. D. Fort Townsend, Wash. T.; I. Fort Lapwai, Idaho T.

Detached Service.—2d Lieut. F. E. Eltonhead will take charge of and conduct to San Francisco, Cal., en route to Alcatraz Island, by steamer, all military convicts now at his post. Sergt. C. F. West, Gen. Ser., will report to Lieut. Eltonhead for instructions (S. O. 184, Dec. 10, D. O.)

G. C.-M. Service.—1st Lieut. John M. Ross, Adj., is relieved from duty as member G. C.-M. instituted by par. 5, S. O. 164, from Hdqrs Dept. Columbia (S. O. 182, Dec. 8, D. O.)

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.—Headquarters and H. Fort Clark, Tex.; B. C. G. I. Fort McKavett, Tex.; A. Fort Griffin, Tex.; D. E. F. K. Fort Gibson, Ind. T.

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. J. M. Gore, further extended ten days (S. O. 270, Dec. 23, D. T.)

23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Granville O. Haller.—Headquarters and A. C. D. G. I. Camp on North Fork of the Canadian River, I. T.; B. E. K. Fort Supply, Ind. T.; F. H. Fort Elliott, Tex.

24TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.—Headquarters and A. B. F. Fort Duncan, Tex.; D. E. H. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; C. G. I. K. Fort Ringgold, Tex.

To Join.—1st Lieut. Henry Wygant is relieved from duty on recruiting service, and will join his company (S. O., Dec. 24, W. D.)

25TH INFANTRY, Colonel George L. Andrews.—Headquarters and E. H. I. Fort Davis, Tex.; B. C. D. F. Fort Stockton, Tex.; A. G. K. Fort Concho, Tex.

G. C.-M. Service.—Major J. Bush, Capt. J. W. French, members, and 1st Lieut. W. Tear, J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Concho, Tex., Dec. 26 (S. O. 267, Dec. 19, D. T.)

New Survey.—Topographical Asst. August Cotera will proceed to San Felipe, Tex., and report to the post commander for the purpose of making a new survey of one of the lines of the tract of land recently donated to the United States, returning to Hdqrs Dept. of Texas on its completion (S. O. 267, Dec. 19, D. T.)

Neglect of Mail Carrier.—A Board of Officers, to consist of 1st Lieut. George G. Greenough, 4th Art., and 1st Lieut. John A. Lundeen, 4th Art., was ordered to convene on Dec. 16, 1879, for the purpose of investigating the alleged neglect of the contractor for carrying mails, supplies, etc., between Astoria, Fort Stevens and Canby (S. O. 185, Dec. 11, D. C.)

Land Claim.—Major O. D. Greene, Adj.-Gen. Dept.; Major Edwin C. Mason, 21st Inf., Act. Insp.-Gen. Dept. of Columbia, are members, and 1st Lieut. Edward B. Rheem, 21st Inf., Recorder, of a Board of Officers ordered to meet at Hdqrs Dept. Columbia, to examine and report upon the facts connected with the ejectment of Mr. H. A. Webster, a citizen of the U. S., from a claim made by him under the Land Laws of the U. S., at Ne-ah Bay, near Cape Flattery, Wash. T. (S. O. 186, Dec. 12, D. C.)

Special Inspectors Appointed.—Capt. F. E. De Conrey, 13th Inf., on ordnance stores, at Jackson Barracks, La.; Capt. Jesse M. Lee, 9th Inf., Fort McKinney, W. T., a saw mill, reported to be entirely worthless; 2d Lieut. Charles R. Noyes, 9th Inf., at Camp on Snake River, W. T., on unseizable property; Col. John S. Smith, 14th Inf., on Q. M. stores, at Ogden, U. T.; Col. A. G. Brackett, 3d Cav., on unseizable horses, at Fort Laramie, Wyo.; Capt. L. H. Carpenter, 10th Cav., on horses and pack mules pertaining to Co. K, 10th Cav.; Lieut.-Col. L. C. Hunt, 20th Inf., on Horses, at Ft. Clark, Texas.

Military Academy.—On the recommendation of the General of the Army, the Secretary of War remits (G. C.-M. O. 75, Dec. 23) the sentence of suspension "until Jan. 15, 1880, then to join the 3d Class," pronounced against Cadet John B. McDonald, 2d Class, U. S. Military Academy. He approves so much of the sentence as requires that the accused "be confined to customary cadet limits during the summer encampment." Cadet McDonald was tried before a G. C.-M., of which Major Alex. Piper is president, his offence being that of absenting himself from his room and inducing a 4th Class cadet to occupy his bed and represent him during his unauthorized absence.

Rifle Cartridges.—Several cases of premature explosion of rifle cartridges (reloaded) have occurred in the Department of Columbia. The Department Commander calls the attention of post and company commanders to the necessity of great care in reloading shells, and in using them at target practice. The instructions from the Ordnance Office, War Department, Washington, D. C., dated August 1, 1878; Circulars from Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, dated April 15, 1879; and Ordnance Notes No. 114, should be carefully read and complied with. The following points in particular should be noted: "The primer should never project beyond the base of the shell, but should be slightly below it. Enlisted men should be cautioned to examine each shell before putting it in the rifle, to see that the primer is put on properly, and that no dirt adheres to the shell, also to see that the firing pin moves freely in the breech block. The breech block should never be closed with a sudden movement when a reloaded cartridge is in the chamber. Commanders of companies will frequently inspect the armorer while reloading shells, and see that the work is properly done." (Circular 22, Dec. 13, D. C.)

The suit against Col. Benton, recently decided, and to which we have before referred, was for infringement in regard to the use of a spring or appliance used in the construction of 80,000 rifles at the Springfield Armory, which was invented by Mr. Millbank in 1864 and patented in 1866, such appliance being for the purpose of ejecting the cartridge shell after the weapon had been discharged. The plaintiff claimed to have been the first man who converted a pivoted extractor into an ejector by means of a spring in breech-loading rifles; the extractor starting the cartridge shell after the weapon had been discharged, and the ejector throwing it out and cleaning the barrel, so that a new cartridge could be inserted. Judge Wallace, in deciding the case, held that Millbank's patent only extracted the cartridge shell, and directed that a verdict be entered for the defendant on the ground that in the Springfield rifle the extraction is done by the aid of a spring, but that the spring used in said rifle does not begin to operate until the extraction is complete, and then it only throws out or ejects the shell.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

"HISTORY OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT."

AN OMITTED CHAPTER IN INGERSOLL'S RECORD.

The chapter referred to is hardly so much of an omission in the relation of facts, on the part of the author, as a change of characters in the dramatic personæ. The epoch is just after the close of the war of 1812, and the exact date March, 1815. In order to exhibit the error of the author clearly, before presenting the correction, the reader is given the following extracts, taken from pages 75-76. The author, after reciting the terms of the act of Congress, of March 8th, 1815, directing the reduction of the Army, goes on to say:

"To this little army of ten thousand men, and the corps of engineers, the Department of War was required to reduce the military force which had just defeated the veteran armies of Great Britain, and to bring about the reduction, if circumstances would permit, within a period of two months. This great quantity of departmental labor was almost completely accomplished in the time designated."

"And this was only a small part of the labors of the Department in the era of vast and varied work which followed the war with England. Liberal bounty land grants had been provided for the soldiers, and liberal pensions also to the disabled and to the heirs of those who had died in the service. At this time all this business was under the supervision of the Secretary of War. Fortunately the distinguished statesman, William H. Crawford, of Georgia, was at the head of the department. So great and versatile were his intellectual powers that he may well be described as a man of genius. He also had rare executive facilities, and it hence happened that the immense labors of disbanding a large army, of organizing the new peace establishment, and of promptly conducting the business pertaining to extra pay, pensions and bounties were successfully conducted. The illustrious Secretary inspired the officers of the staff departments, and the employees of the Department generally, with somewhat of his sublime energy, and, by this genius of work, accomplished a vast deal in a short time."

Again, at page 454, in the biography of Mr. Crawford:

"After the close of the war with England, Mr. Monroe retired from the control of the War Department, and resumed the conduct of the Department of State, whereupon William H. Crawford, of Georgia, was appointed Secretary of War. This was in March, 1815, and he remained at the head of the Department until the close of President Madison's administration."

It will hardly be credited, after this laudation of Mr. Crawford, and recital of his service, that that gentleman was, at the time of Mr. Monroe's translation to the War Department, actually in France, whither long before he had been sent as our Minister to the Court of Versailles. Yet such is the historical fact. Having thus pointed out the error contained in the "History of the War Department," the following narrative will supply the correction:

On the 28th of February, 1815, President Madison nominated to the Senate, James Monroe (then Secretary of War), as Secretary of State; William H. Crawford, as Secretary of War, and Albert Gallatin, as Minister to France. These gentlemen were all confirmed.

Mr. Monroe, whose commission in the State Department bears date 1st of March, did not relinquish his duties in the War Office until the 14th of the same month, when his failing health admonished him that he was overtaxing his health. Mr. Madison then requested Mr. Alexander James Dallas, Secretary of the Treasury, to assume the duties of the War Department until Mr. Crawford should arrive from France.

Mr. Crawford returned to the United States in the U. S. dispatch-vessel *Neptune*, Captain Jones, arriving in the Delaware river on the 1st of August.† He reached Washington on the 2d, and on the 9th it was publicly known that he had accepted the appointment, his commission bearing date 1st August, 1815.‡

The period of Mr. Dallas' service as Acting Secretary of War, for he was not, of course, nominated to the office, commenced on the 14th of March, and terminated on the 8th of August, 1815; four months and twenty-three days. And here, if a bald recital of dates were sufficient, the "omitted chapter" might end, but the duties performed by that gentleman being precisely those credited to Mr. Crawford, and of great and national importance, a brief sketch of them would seem both appropriate and interesting.

The same sources of information were open to the author of the "History of the War Department" as to the writer hereof, but, through some strange neglect or mischance, he seems to have ignored them. It may be said in part justification of so serious an omission in a work of such a pretentious character, that until a recent period the services of Mr. Dallas were apparently more a matter of vague tradition than acknowledged fact, in the War Department itself. But it remains that Mr. Ingersoll could not have examined the records of that office.

When Mr. Dallas entered the Department the ravell'd ends of the skein of war yet remained to be gathered up. On the 24th of December of the preceding year peace had been declared, and the war of 1812 had come to its political end. The troops constituting the Army were scattered over the continent from the mouth of the Mississippi to the great lakes of the North, and from the Ohio river to the coasts of Maine. The Army remained unpaid, and the country was only emerging from a period of serious financial depression which had not failed to affect even the credit of the general government. Mr. Dallas had to direct the concentration of his armies, disband the larger part, and to effect the reduction of the remainder to the limits of the peace establishment decreed by Congress. He had to supplement his efforts as Secretary of War by his work as Secretary of the Treasury, and procure by personal influence the necessary funds to pay the Army. Added to these duties was the care of the western Indian tribes, then under the control of his office. They were exhibiting much discontent, and with reports of depredations came repeated calls for troops for the protection of the settlers.

It will thus be seen that in accepting the temporary charge of the War portfolio, Mr. Dallas came to no

sinecure, but to hard work, and work for which nothing in his past life had given him any preparation. That he performed his task with credit to himself and profit to his country was borne testimony to, many years after his useful life had closed, by the late Brevet Lieut.-General Winfield Scott, who, in a letter to the writer's father, says: "The work of your father in the reduction of the Army of the war of 1812 to its peace establishment exhibited in a peculiar light the remarkable versatility of his genius. It was impossible to believe that he had not experienced a long military career, nor was it the least merit in his character that he was able to accommodate the inevitable heart-burnings and jealousies which did not fail to grow out of the necessity of discharging so many meritorious and gallant officers."

It was under the foregoing briefly outlined conditions that the following letter was written:

[The letter in question is too long to give in full. It is from the "Department of War," dated April 8, 1815, signed by A. J. Dallas, Acting Secretary of War, to Major Generals Brown, Jackson, Scott, Gaines, Macomb, and Ripley, saying the President of the United States desired their presence in Washington to give their views in reference to the formation of the military peace establishment, under the Act of March 8, 1815. In this letter Acting Secretary Dallas called for a report upon "the organization of the Army, the selection of the officers, and the military stations." He then proceeded to specially explain the views of the President, and his own, on the points to be deliberated upon.—ED. JOURNAL.]

Under date of the 17th of April, Mr. Dallas again communicated with the Board, in a letter revealing the closest study of the needs of the Army, and the greatest familiarity with the laws affecting the various corps, entering into the minutest details of the Service. It is to be regretted that the necessity of compressing this article, originally intended for the pages of a magazine, into its present dimensions, precludes its publication.

By direction of Mr. Madison, the Acting Secretary issued to the Army and country the following complimentary letter:

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, May 17, 1815.

"But on this important and interesting occasion the President of the United States is aware that he owes to the feelings of the nation, as well as his own feelings, an expression of the high sense entertained of the services of the American Army."

Leaving the scenes of private life, the citizens became the soldiers of the United States; the spirit of a genuine patriotism quickly pervaded the military establishment, and the events of the war have conspicuously developed the moral as well as the physical character of an army in which every man seems to have deemed himself the chosen champion of his country.

The pacific policy of the American government, the domestic habits of the people, and a long sequestration from the use of arms, will justly account for the want of warlike preparation, for an imperfect state of discipline, and for various other sources of embarrassment or disaster which existed at the commencement of hostilities; but to account for the achievements of the American Army in all their splendor, and for its efficient acquirements in every important branch of the military art, during a war of little more than two years' continuance, it is necessary to resort to that principle of action which, in a free country, identifies the citizen with his government, impels each individual to seek the knowledge that is requisite for the performance of his duty, and renders every soldier, in effect, a combatant in his own cause.

The President of the United States anticipated from the career of an Army thus constituted all the glory and the fruits of victory, and it has been his happiness to see a just war terminated by an honorable peace, after such demonstrations of valor, genius and enterprise as secured for the land and naval forces of the United States an imperishable renown: for the citizens the best prospect of an undisturbed enjoyment of their rights, and for the Government the respect and confidence of the world.

To the American Army, which has so nobly contributed to these results, the President of the United States presents this public testimonial of approbation and applause at the moment when many of its gallant officers and men must, unavoidably, be separated from the standard of their country. Under all governments, and especially under all free governments, the restoration of peace has uniformly produced a reduction in the military establishment. The United States disbanded in 1800 the troops which had been raised on account of the differences with France; and the memorable peace of 1783 was followed by a discharge of the illustrious Army of the Revolution. The frequency or the necessity of the occurrence does not, however, deprive it of its interest, and the dispersion of the military family at this juncture, under circumstances peculiarly affecting, cannot fail to awaken all the sympathies of the generous and the just.

The difficulty of accomplishing a satisfactory organization of the military peace establishment has been anxiously felt. The Act of Congress contemplates a small but effective force, and consequently the honorable men whose years, or infirmities, or wounds, render them incapable of further service in actual warfare, are necessarily excluded from the establishment. The Act contemplates a reduction of the Army from many to a few regiments, and consequently a long list of meritorious officers must inevitably be laid aside. But the attempt has been assiduously made to collect authentic information from every source as a foundation for an impartial judgment on the various claims to attention, and even while a decision is pronounced, the President of the United States desires it may be distinctly understood that from the designation of the officers who are retained in service nothing more is to be inferred than his approbation of the designated individuals, without derogating, in any degree, from the fame and worth of those whose lot it is to retire.

The American Army of the War of 1812 has hitherto successfully emulated the patriotism and the valor of the Army of the War of 1776. The closing scene of the example remains alone to be performed. Having established

the independence of their country, the Revolutionary patriots cheerfully returned to the walks of civil life; many of them became the benefactors and ornaments of society, in the prosecution of various arts and professions, and all of them, as well as the veteran few who survive the lapse of time, have been the objects of grateful recollection and constant regard. It is for the American Army, now dissolved, to pursue the same honorable course, in order to enjoy the same inestimable reward. The hope may be respectfully indulged that the beneficence of the legislative authority will beam upon suffering merit, an admiring nation will unite the civic with the martial honors which adorn its heroes, and posterity, in its theme of gratitude, will indiscriminately praise the protectors.

The various complications arising out of the disappointments of individuals, the ambition of their friends, and the necessitous condition of discharged officers, operated to cause frequent changes in the personnel of the Army for several months. Contractors were clamorous for payment. The Army itself remained awaiting its dues. While these affairs required attention, the Acting Secretary was in constant correspondence, arranging the details of the surrender of Malden to the British, the reception from them of Michilimackinac. In the north General Brown was establishing a cordon of forts for the better protection of our western settlers from the attacks of the Indians, and negotiating a treaty with the tribes. In the south General Jackson was treating with the Creeks.* It was while thus occupied, that, on the 8th of August, Mr. Crawford took possession of the War Department.

Much more might be written of important duty performed by Mr. Dallas, if space permitted, but, before closing this paper, it may be allowed to refer to a letter written General Swift, in which he expresses the solicitude he felt regarding the Military Academy. If the letter intimated the usefulness of a curriculum not subsequently considered necessary in the education of our officers, it also indicated the patriotic interest the writer took in the well-being of the Alma Mater of so many gallant men of the past and present.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, April 26, 1815.

GENERAL SWIFT, New York: I wish to enlarge the sphere of education at the Academy without departing from the principle of the institution. A soldier who is able to read Polybius and Caesar in their own language will probably gain something of the spirit as well as the science of the writer. The rudiments of the classical languages should be brought to the Academy, but might not their use and refinement be advantageously, though incidentally, cultivated there? In a School of Engineers I should think a possession of chemistry would be important. And the professors of the institution should have their labors more divided by the introduction of teachers for history, astronomy, geography, etc.

On all these topics, and on all the means of an exact and salutary discipline, I wish your advice, with that of the whole Academic staff, in the form of a system. You will excuse me in giving you this trouble, for the sake of my motive. I am, etc.

A. J. DALLAS, Acting Secretary of War.

Of those who were cadets at that time, but one survivor, General George D. Ramsay, retired, appears upon the Army Register.

My correction of the error of Mr. Ingersoll is here as complete as space will permit, though much of interest afforded by the records† has been omitted.

Mr. Dallas was born on the island of Jamaica, the 21st June, 1759. His father, Dr. Robert Dallas, was a native of Edinburgh, and came of an old Scotch family, the elder branch of which still exists. Mr. Dallas was educated in England, where he studied law. He was married before returning to Jamaica, where he was admitted to the bar, and made a Master in Chancery. From Jamaica he came to America, reaching the port of New York on the 7th of June, 1783. On the tenth day after landing he arrived in the city of Philadelphia, and at once took the oath of allegiance to the United States, making that city his residence until his death, which took place on the 18th of January, 1817.

ALEX. J. DALLAS, Major 23d Infantry.

* Owing to their distance from Washington, neither Generals Brown nor Jackson met with the Board on Reduction.

† Military Book, War Office, Vol. VIII, Dec. 22, 1814—April 29, 1816. Letters to President, 1801-1830. Record Room, War Department.

The daily papers report that the Postmaster General has issued an order directing the Postmaster at New York city to refuse payment of postal money orders or delivery of registered letters addressed to the bogus "bankers and brokers," firm names of Lawrence and Co., purporting to do business on the "stock combination system," at No. 19 Broad street; Adams, Brown, and Co., at 28 Broad street; Allen, Jordan, and Co., at No. 54 Wall street, and Barnes, Garrison, and Co., at No. 55 Exchange place and No. 11 Broad street, and elsewhere in New York city. The swindling operations of the persons conducting these concerns have been enormously profitable, at the expense of a prodigious number of dupes in all parts of the country. In obtaining the evidence upon which the order is based the special agents of the Post Office Department have been assisted by the authorities of the New York Stock Exchange, and the case against the managers of the swindle is so conclusive that several of them have now made full confession. This emphasizes what was said last week in the JOURNAL, in regard to the folly of intrusting money to unknown concerns engaged in a business which is sufficiently hazardous when conducted in the most honest way. It was impossible to speak more specifically than we did without information which, as the result has shown, was only to be obtained through official action.

The Afghans made a general attack upon the British at Cabul, Dec. 23, and were repulsed. A counter attack was made with artillery and cavalry. The Afghan force is estimated at 6,000, and they are reported to have lost heavily. The English losses were five killed, including Captain Dundas and Lieutenant Nugent, of the engineers, by a premature explosion when blowing up the towers of a neighboring village, and thirty-three wounded, the majority of whom are doing well.

* A History of the War Department, with Biographical Sketches of the Secretaries. L. D. Ingersoll. Washington, D. C., 1879.
† State Department Records.

‡ National Intelligencer, 3d August, 1815.

SOME PERSONAL ITEMS.

MARSHAL CAMBROBERT has taken occasion to deny, in the French Senate, that he gave the command to fire on the people of Paris during the *coup d'état*. He was not in command at the time, and did all he could to stop the firing.

EX-MARSHAL BAZAINE has asked and been refused permission to return to France to settle some family affairs. His surrender of Metz led to his court-martial and sentence to death, the sentence being commuted to imprisonment in the Fortress at the Ile Sainte Marguerite, from which he escaped.

The Army and Navy Club of Washington give their second reception next Monday, Jan. 5.

LIEUTENANTS Lemly, Van Vliet, and Slaker, of the Army, are reported in Washington spending their Christmas holidays.

ASST. SURGEON B. D. TAYLOR, U. S. A., ordered for duty in the Department of the East, left New York this week for Fort Leavenworth, as a witness before the Retiring Board there in session.

MISS JULIA JACKSON, the sixteen-year-old daughter of Stonewall Jackson, has been presented by ex-Confederate soldiers in Maryland with a handsome silver pitcher, inscribed: "To General Stonewall Jackson's daughter, from Confederate soldiers in Maryland, Christmas, 1879." Miss Jackson is now at school in Baltimore.

THE suit begun by the Government in September, 1877, against General John C. Fremont to recover \$1,108.08, which it was alleged was erroneously paid to him as Major-General of the Army between May 14, 1861, and July 16, of the same year, has been discontinued by consent of Judge Choate. The suit was brought because it was believed that General Fremont had not reported for duty until after July 16. It was afterwards discovered that General Fremont had merely neglected to file an acceptance of his appointment.

THE funeral services over the remains of the late Brig.-Gen. Charles P. Kingsbury, United States Army, were held at the family residence, No. 16 Hancock street, Brooklyn, Saturday, Dec. 27th. Services were also held in the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church. Both services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. T. L. Cuyler. Those at the house were brief and of the most simple character, consisting only of a prayer by Dr. Cuyler. When the funeral procession reached the church the casket containing the body was taken from the hearse, wrapped in the American flag, and borne slowly up the aisle by eight private soldiers, in full uniform, from the 1st Artillery, stationed at Governor's Island. Following the coffin as pall-bearers came: Major-Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, Major-Gen. Henry W. Slocum, Major-Gen. S. Casey, Brevet Major-Gen. John Newton, Brevet Brig.-Gen. W. G. Mitchell, Brevet Brig.-Gen. Chauncey McKeever, Mr. Gordon Burchard, Mr. A. S. Porter. A heavy silver plate on the lid of the casket containing the remains bore the following inscription:

CHARLES P. KINGSBURY,
U. S. Army.

The remains were dressed in the full uniform of a Brigadier-General. Dr. Cuyler read appropriate portions from the Scriptures, offered a fervent prayer, and in an address which followed delivered a feeling and eloquent tribute to the dead soldier. The remains were taken to Greenwood Cemetery for interment.

THE grave of Abraham Lincoln's mother has recently been marked by a suitable monument, but it seems that of his father is still unmarked. A Mattoon, Illinois, correspondent of a Cincinnati paper says: "The grave of Thomas Lincoln, father of the martyred President, lies about nine miles southeast of this place, in a country churchyard, and is unmarked save by a small heap of boulders. When Abraham Lincoln was on his way to Washington to take his seat as President he stopped off at Charleston, paid his father's grave a visit, and, it is said, left \$50 for a headstone, but his instructions were not carried out."

MRS. GRANT was presented at Philadelphia with a beautiful chair by the members of George G. Meade Post 1, of which the General is a member.

LIEUT. LOUIS J. GULICK, commander of the marine guard of the *Alliance*, received much credit from the Board of Inspection for the efficiency and soldierly appearance of his men. They did particularly well as artillery men stationed on the fore-castle.

GEN. WARREN has just visited the battle-field of Five Forks, to make a survey, or take notes of the positions at that battle-field, in which he commanded the 5th Corps in the Army of the Potomac. His observations will no doubt be presented as evidence to the board called to consider his case. During his stay at Petersburg Gen. Warren called on his old antagonist, Gen. Mahone, just elected U. S. Senator from Virginia.

1ST LIEUT. CHAS. A. WILLIAMS, 21st Infantry, recently promoted, and Mrs. Williams, left Fort Vancouver, Dec. 13, for their new station, Fort Lapwai, I. T.

THE Fort Vancouver *Independent* reports that Col. Granville O. Haller was recently telegraphed by Gen. Howard, desiring to know whether he wanted to go into active military service or be placed upon the retired list. The Colonel made reply that he desired active service.

BYT. CAPT. MELVILLE C. WILKINSON, 1st Lieut. 3d Infantry and Military Instructor at Pacific University, left Dec. 8 for the Yakima reservation to confer with the agent of that tribe upon the subject of Indian education, soon to be commenced at Forest Grove under his direction.

ACCORDING to the Chicago *Tribune* "Mr. Lincoln used to tell a story about a big Hoosier who came to Washington during the war and called on a street Arab for a shine. Looking at the tremendous boots before him he called out to a brother shiner across the street, 'Come over and help, Jimmy; I've got an army contract.'"

SECRETARY OF WAR RAMSAY is the first cabinet officer that Minnesota has had.

ACCORDING to the *Pioneer Press*, in April, 1878, "Wily Baker, son of the late Adjt.-Gen. Baker, of Iowa, killed Corp. Thomas Murray, at Fort Russell, by stabbing him with a knife. He was tried in Cheyenne, and acquitted on the plea of insanity, and was afterward confined in a lunatic asylum or hospital at Des Moines. A few days ago he was returned to Fort Russell with a lot of recruits from St. Louis. The soldiers recognized him, and made arrangements to lynch him, but he was rescued by the officers of the post and confined in the Cheyenne jail for safety. Next morning he was released, there being no law to hold him, and is now at large, but in danger of his life if the soldiers meet him."

A LARGE number of letters from soldiers and sailors who served in the Army and Navy of the United States during the late war have written Representative Weaver, of Iowa, and other members of the House of Representatives, enclosing petitions praying for the passage of the bill introduced on Dec. 3, authorizing the payment of soldiers and sailors the difference in value between the currency which they received for their services and the standard gold coin of the United States, together with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum from the date said soldier or sailor was mustered out of the service of the United States up to the date of the payment of the sum found due him.

It has been reported that Lieut. W. H. Emory, U. S. N., met with a serious accident recently, while on a hunting party in Europe. He was, it appears, thrown from his horse while out fox hunting, but sustained no serious injury. He and his wife are now travelling in Europe, and will return early in the spring.

A HOR was given by Rear-Admiral Balch at his residence, at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Saturday evening, Dec. 27, at which the officers connected with the Academy were present.

THE hearing upon the habeas corpus on which Superintendent Godding last October brought Lieut. Walker, U. S. A., an alleged lunatic, before Judge James, seems to be one of those cases in which judges find time the best of their advisers. The lieutenant had proposed that Gen. Grant should lead a new crusade for the recovery of the Holy Land, had quarrelled with his commanding officers, had high words with his wife, and had been committed to the insane asylum on the certificate of an Army medical board, which thought him a lunatic, with homicidal tendencies. Judge James, however, in October last left him at large until the conclusion of the hearing, and adjourned the hearing indefinitely. Since then he has resided with his counsel, Judge Warden, who says the conduct of his client has been quite as sane as his own, and that he has demeaned himself as quietly, intelligently, and decorously as any other man in Washington. Under these circumstances the rehearing was, as already reported, begun before Judge James on Friday. On yesterday it was continued, and Lieut. Walker, being himself placed upon the stand, was examined by court and counsel at great length. The hearing was then adjourned until Tuesday next. Lieut. Walker took the stand and was subjected to a lengthy examination, in which his answers tended to show that he was a man of remarkable intelligence and many in the room were of the opinion that he was about as sane as any man present. In the examination of Dr. Godding, yesterday, he did not testify in terms that he did not consider it safe for Walker to go at large, but that he was liable to break out in a fit of insanity when under excitement.—*Washington Star*.

MRS. KITTIE L. FELT, of Galena, who is to accompany Gen. and Mrs. Grant on their trip to Cuba and Mexico, is the daughter of the late L. S. Felt, of Galena, an old and valued friend of Gen. Grant, with whom deceased became intimately acquainted during the war.

ADMIRAL CRAVEN's daughter is to marry a Mr. Hackett of Washington.

A RECEPTION was given to Gen. Miles and his staff Christmas evening, at Fargo, D. T., under the auspices of the Qu Vive Club.

"GENERAL SHERMAN," writes the Washington correspondent of the *Pioneer Press*, "has a great deal to do at his office, for the position of General of the Army is no sinecure; but there is no man who enjoys pleasure more than he, or seeks it more indefatigably. He is the most regular theatre attendant in Washington, and scarcely ever misses a play or an opera, and accepts as many social invitations as anybody we have. Scarcely ever does he dine at home except on Thursday and Sunday, when he generally has company of his own, and it is understood that General Sherman will not accept invitations on those days unless the occasion is something very unusual. As an example of his rounds let me cite last week. On Monday he attended a party. On Tuesday morning he was at his office at six o'clock, and worked assiduously until half-past one, when he took a train for Philadelphia, reaching there about six; dined with General Grant at Mr. G. W. Child's at seven, attended the reception afterward; left Philadelphia on the train at midnight; arrived in Washington at 7 A. M. Wednesday; was at his desk at 9; worked hard all day; dined in state at Secretary Evarts' at noon; attended Gen. Hunter's ball with his daughters at 10; danced until 2 o'clock Thursday morning; was at his desk at 9, remaining until 4; gave a dinner party and afterward received the guests at the army and navy German with Mrs. Col. Audenreid in the evening, and acted as master of ceremonies; was at work all day Friday, attended a ball in the evening, and was on deck at his office as usual on Saturday morning, and he thinks he didn't get more than his share of fun, either."

GOV. VAN ZANDT, of Rhode Island, has declined the proffered appointment of Minister to Russia, which is reported to have been also offered to Gen. Burnside and declined.

THE District Attorney, District of Columbia, Dec. 27, filed a suit for the United States against Samuel Dana, Paymaster United States Army, and S. P. Brown and W. E. Spalding, as sureties, to recover \$19,896.75, which, it is alleged, he is in default. Dana died at San Francisco, Sept. 27, 1870.

THE lecture of Capt. H. H. Pierce at Oak Grove Theatre last Friday evening was well attended. His effort was a most comical dissertation upon the probabilities and impossibilities of Mother Goose's well known household rhymes, delivered in the serious and staid manner of the sober critic which is most ludicrous by comparison with the subject discussed, and

as an entertaining, amusing effort was a grand success. There was something new in it even to those who heard it before, and like good wine it improves with age.—*Vancouver Independent*.

WHEN the Emperor William received the news of the attempt on the life of the Czar he became, it is said, very serious, and, after remaining silent for some minutes, he said in a tone at once melancholy and energetic: "If we do not change the direction of our policy; if we do not think seriously of giving sound instruction to youth; if we do not give the first place to religion; if we only pretend to govern by expedients from day to day, our thrones will be overturned, and society will become a prey to the most terrible events. We have no more time to lose, and it will be a great misfortune if all the governments do not come to an accord in this salutary work of repression."

AN autopsy on Commander Hatfield, U. S. N., who was buried, Dec. 19, at the Mare Island Cemetery, fully established the fact that he died of Bright's disease of the kidneys. He was the son of a Presbyterian clergyman. The funeral procession and ceremonies were, the *Vallejo Chronicle* reports, the most impressive of any held on the yard for some years. The Rev. N. B. Klink, of Vallejo, was the officiating clergyman.

ASSISTANT SURGEON MILLARD H. CRAWFORD, U. S. N., started east on the overland train, December 19, from San Francisco.

FIRST LIEUTENANT FRANCIS H. HARRINGTON, who has been absent on a visit north, returned, December, 26, and resumed his duties at the marine barracks, Norfolk.

THE wife of Capt. Payne, who fought the Ute Indians after Thornburg was killed, will spend the winter at Warrenton, Va., near Washington, with her brother-in-law's family.

MRS. GEN. SHERMAN, who has been visiting her eldest daughter, Mrs. Fitch, in St. Louis, telegraphed the General, Dec. 25, that he had a Christmas present of another granddaughter.

LIEUT. SLAKER and Miss Ada Sprigg were married Dec. 30 at the residence of the bride's mother, on G street, Washington. The wedding was very private, only a few of the relations and friends of the family being present.

ARRIVALS at Washington for the week ending Dec. 31, 1879: Army—Lieut. J. C. Bush, 5th Artillery; Col. G. L. Andrews, 25th Infantry; Capt. T. F. Tobey, 14th Infantry; Dr. J. A. Finlay; Lieut. J. M. Jones, 4th Artillery; Dr. J. P. Wright; Lieut. C. L. Davis, 10th Infantry. Navy—Engineer J. S. Gates; Lieut. G. M. Totten; Dr. G. E. H. Harmon; Lieut. R. M. Berry; Engineer G. J. Burnap.

LIEUT.-GEN. SHERIDAN and wife and Col. Fred. Grant arrived in Washington Dec. 29. General and Mrs. Sheridan, during their stay in Washington, will be guests of Commissary General MacFeely. Col. Grant joins his wife at Gen. Beale's residence.

A WRITER in the *Fond du Lac (Wis.) Commonwealth*, pays a glowing tribute to Gen. John Gibbon, giving an interesting account of his services, especially during the great war—speaking of the battle of Gainesville, in which Gibbons's brigade lost 800 men, the writer says: "The brave little General was at all times in the thickest of the fight, cheering his men by word and example. How completely that battle removed all dislike for the strict disciplinarian, and how great became the admiration and love for him, only those who have witnessed similar changes can appreciate. The morning after the regimental adjutants came in with their reports showing the frightful loss in killed and wounded. Gibbon dropped his head and wept most bitterly. His sorrow was as sincere as that of the father who has been bereft of his children. The last time that he commanded the brigade in battle was at Antietam, where his own brother, who commanded a Confederate battery, fought him. When Gibbon left his old brigade to assume command of a division in the 3d Corps, he went with the love and hearty good wishes of every officer and soldier in the four regiments. In due time he was made a major-general, and when Gen. Sickles was wounded at Gettysburg, Gibbon assumed command of the 3d Army Corps, but was soon afterwards seriously wounded. His record throughout the war was such as any soldier may well be proud of. His response to the call for the names of honorably discharged soldiers, was in these words: 'I was not a Wisconsin soldier, and have not been honorably discharged, but at the judgment day I want to be with the Wisconsin soldiers.'"

A CORRESPONDENT of the N. Y. *Times* tells this story of Col. Gustavus Loomis at the time of the *Monitor-Merrimac* excitement:

Gen. Gustavus Loomis, who was then the oldest infantry officer in the United States Regular Service, flushed and out of breath, hurried into the Inspector-General's office, then occupied by Chester A. Arthur. For a moment he was unable to speak, and Arthur, offering him a chair, asked:

"What in the world has happened, General?"

"The ram *Merrimac*! the rebel ram *Merrimac*!" incoherently gasped the other.

"Well, what about her?"

"I have a dispatch from Gen. McClellan that she has sunk two United States ships—that she is coming to New York to shell the city—may be expected at any moment—I'm so out of breath running to tell you the news that I can hardly speak."

"Running to tell me the news!" exclaimed Arthur;

"why in heaven didn't you hire a carriage?"

"Hire a carriage!" replied the old Army officer, lifting his hands in amazement; "hire a carriage! why, that would cost me \$2.50. I can't afford to spend so much out of my own pocket, and if I made such an expenditure on account of the Government, it would take all the rest of my official life to explain why I did so."

COL. and Mrs. C. M. McGhee have issued cards of invitation to the marriage of their daughter, Margaret, to Lieut. Geo. W. Baxter, 3d regiment of Cavalry, U. S. Army, Wednesday, January 7, at two o'clock P. M., St. John's Episcopal Church, Knoxville, Tenn.

MODERN INFANTRY FIRE.

An extra number of the Journal of the English Royal United Service Institution, just issued, contains the two military prize essays, 1879, on field intrenching, its application on the battle field and its bearing on tactics. The prize was awarded to the essay by Capt. Emilius Clayton, R. A., and a place of honor to that by Brevet Major T. Fraser, R. E., which was too long to come within the terms of the composition. Major Fraser's essay strikes us as the more valuable of the two. Major Fraser urges that the Martini-Henry, which is essentially a long range arm, should be sighted beyond 1,400 yards, while the Gras is sighted to 1,960. In 1877, he says the Russian soldiers were drove to improvise modern sights for their Kränke rifles; and already there are complaints that the Berdan is not sighted high enough. We make the following extracts from his article, showing the increased effect of infantry fire with the modern breech-loader:

The concentration of artillery under Frederick the Great, brought about results till then unknown, and as mobility further increased, the method culminated in the hands of Napoleon; while the development of small arm fire with the smooth-bore, combined with the active defence, reached its limit under Wellington. These changes, however, were progressive rather than revolutionary; those brought about by the Rifled Arms, which came into use in the middle of this century, were much more marked, especially in the war of 1862-64; while the recent introduction of the breech-loading small arm has produced a new era in fire tactics, inasmuch as it not only increased the possible rapidity of aimed fire four or five fold, while that of artillery has remained stationary, but also gave, for the first time, to attacking infantry, the power of fighting continuously while in motion; and to that of the defence, an enormous increase of defensive power. To the breech-loading small arm especially, and in a less degree to rifled artillery, are due the changes which have been forced upon the armies of to-day, and among others the larger use of field intrenching by both the defensive and offensive.

At Gravelotte, a German horse-battery existed for a short time at 900 yards from the French infantry, but this was exceptional, and the balance of opinion after the war of 1870-71 was that within 1,000 yards guns could hardly be exposed to musketry. Since then, the improvements in, and more scientific use of the small arm will, it is thought, further increase that distance under ordinary circumstances perhaps to 1,400 or 1,500 yards. Thus in the German musketry regulations, it was, before 1877, laid down that batteries might be fired at up to a distance of 550 yards. In those of 1877, we find this extended to 1,340 yards, while as early as 1875 the Austrians had extended their field firing from 500 to 1,200 yards. Hence as regards grazing effect, gun fire will, as a rule, begin with a drop not much less than that at which the most effective musketry fire leaves off. On the other hand searching effect increases with drop, but of necessity at the expense of sweep and accuracy.

In Turkey, though the use of field works is traditional, artificial localities are very rare. For the sake of water and shelter, most of the villages lie very low in the valleys, and except the Mosque or church and "Konak" the bulk of the houses are of mud on wattle or wooden frames; and further, with the exception of the walled garden fences, there are no enclosures in the country; consequently habitations and enclosures played no part in this war; redoubts formed the decisive points and earth entrenchments were everywhere used. Indeed, so universal was the employment of field works that hardly an action was fought in which they did not play some part. Of timber there is a good deal, but the bulk of it is low oak scrub. The Turks were very apt at clearing this away, but neither they nor the Russians seemed to have much idea of using timber for obstacles.

Owing to the constant attacks they had to stand, the Turks at Plevna were driven into developing, for the first time in the history of field works, a thoroughly sufficient amount of over-head cover. Under this they seem to have suffered less, even from the siege guns, than Rustchuk had previously done from the same pieces. But the want of artillery results was not confined to Plevna; one of the most remarkable instances occurred at Gorni-Doubniak, on the Orhanie road, where Gourko, with 20,000 men and 54 guns, advanced on three lines and made a concentric attack on the two redoubts and outlying shelter trenches that formed the post. The former were much inferior in resisting power to some of those at Plevna, and it seemed, one would have thought, that the guns alone would sweep away not only defenders but defences. The artillery, which surrounded the post, fired for six hours at from 2,100 to 1,800 yards and less. The Turks (4,000 men with 4 guns) had to depend on infantry fire.

The Guard came on with a courage beyond all praise. They had been sent for as the "saviours of the army," unworn by war, unhindered with the pack, they advanced, cheered by their own guns, and fearful only of finding themselves afraid. But when more than a mile from the post their ranks began to thin, struck down by invisible forces that no cover seemed to check; as they reached the zone where rushes alone were possible, each last resting place was marked, as they rose, by a line of dead.

Zeddeler, in his "Practical Conclusions from our last War" ("Voieny Zbornik," May, 1878), mentions that some fell asleep under fire, from exhaustion, and were shot as they lay. He says they lost men at 2,500 yards. At this range the bullets fell with a considerable drop, and this, it is thought, is partly the secret of the moral effect of long range fire. Everyone expects to see men fall when fired at; but there is something "uncanny" in seeing comrades drop down, even behind cover, and apparently without a cause. The effect of the discovery that against long range fire "cover" is "no cover" is very marked in Kouroupatkine's account of the advance of the Kazan regiment against the Turkish second line at Loftcha. At 1,600 or 1,700 yards they

took shelter behind small boulders lying in the open; but they soon learned that the bullets found them out.

These incidents of 1877-78 teach us the increased efficiency of musketry fire and the need for a full development of its power, while as regards field artillery several conclusions are forced upon us.

1st. That long range firing, even at troops or guns in the open, is practically useless, and fails, after a time, in moral effect.

2nd. That against earthworks the frontal fire of field guns, even at reasonable ranges, is unreliable in its results.

3rd. That against troops well provided with blindages, even a long-continued bombardment fails to make way for the attack.

Contrary, therefore, to the opinion generally held after the wars of 1866 and 1870, it would appear that the assailant can, for the future, place but little reliance on this means of success; but, apart from a better tactical use of artillery, improved results may, it is thought, be obtained by a more suitable ordnance; and as, at the present moment, an immediate change to more modern field artillery has become imperative in this country, it is not inopportune to view the question from the standpoint of our subject.

The influence of field works is further felt in the power it confers on small bodies of retaining and frustrating hostile movements. So that while the attack more than ever finds it desirable to manoeuvre, with a view to turn the defences it can hardly face; an active defender, if he use his advantages, has an increased power of checking such movements. Then again, the same tendency to enveloping movements, leads on both sides, in the open field at least, to the greatest possible extension of front, and often, in consequence, to the undue weakening of some point.

For the future, we may expect that fire will be more or less aimed up to 1,500 or 2,000 yards; for while up to the present time long range fire has fully deserved the name of "unaimed," we may look forward to its becoming more and more the aimed fire of the future; because in the closing scene of a fight, amid the din, smoke, and dire confusion, all that human nature can do is to shoot quick, to shoot low, and to shoot straight, leaving it to the excellence of the arm to do the rest; while at the longer ranges the conditions are less unfavorable to aiming, and it is now known what results can be got, and "how."

As to the best formation for the troops behind the shooting line—the theory of aimed and unaimed fire-zones rather gave a preference to columns at a distance and lines or open lines at close quarters; while lately results show that, at the longer ranges, columns suffer more from aimed fire.

Among the effects of the use of intrenchments, the difficulty of attacking them with their present power of resistance will often make it a question whether the risks of a night attack, or an attack in fog, are not less serious than the certain loss of a frontal attack by daylight. At such times, the shooting qualities (apart from rapidity) of the new arms disappear and the defence is deprived of an element on which it counted.

Night attacks to be successful, require, above everything, excellent discipline and close formations. The Germans, who generally employ a turning movement, succeeded in capturing several defended villages before Belfort by night attacks; while Bourbaki's raw levies failed in two such attempts on the German positions on the Lisaine.

One great objection raised to breech-loaders was that it would be impossible to keep them supplied, and yet in 1866 the Germans only expended altogether nine cartridges per man. In 1870 also they met the difficulty by a rigid fire discipline, which confined the shooting to the very short ranges that suited their arm. The French, who had not thought out the question, allowed themselves much more latitude, and in consequence often ran short, without very great results. The Turks, who had no previous fire discipline, outdid the French in the prodigality of their fire, and in a rough way produced remarkable results (though there was often enormous waste), and further, they were, as a rule, perfectly successful in dealing with supply.

The Turks carried little but ammunition and food, so each man managed easily to take 100 to 120 rounds about him. Some ammunition arabas followed the infantry as best they could, but in addition, each battalion, averaging 600 men, had about 30 pack horses, carrying 60,000 rounds (2,000 each). This was the secret of their success. The pack horses were led, in action, by men of each battalion, in rear of the shooting line, with wonderfully little loss, and could go anywhere.

The tendency, at present, is to replace individual by mass firing, as far as possible, and thus, among other things, to diminish and control the expenditure, still, from the war of 1877-78, it seems that, though the requirements of a campaign, as to quantity, are generally provided for by existing arrangements, in the actual attack, to meet contingencies, such as the necessity for holding captured posts, the men should each take about 100 rounds into action; and, that a first regimental reserve, on pack-horses, must follow them into the fight; then, whatever happens to the carriages, most cases will be provided for, and the infantry is free to use the advantage its mobility confers. For the defence the problem is comparatively easy.

Rapidity in striking is, we may be sure, the best weapon of the attack, and in its use the work of numbers must replace that of time; while such action will also enforce imperfect preparation on the defensive. In retreat especially this will be the case. When Moukhtar Pasha first fell back, though the country favored defence, he had no time for preparation.

This fact is, we think, at the bottom of the belief now gaining ground, that the tactical use of intrenchments is dependent on the carriage by the troops of portable tools. This cannot be called a purely theoretical view, when we find a Russian general, writing almost from the battle-field, declare that "if the Govern-

ment do not give their infantry a portable shovel, the troops should buy them at their own cost."

The attack has gained strategically, the defence tactically, while the last great war has confirmed the fact, that when defenders mean to stay, and can only be got at "straight," they generally will stay; it has also shown that, after all, there is a limit to the effect of fire, and that whenever the attack has been pressed home, some at least have reached the goal, and that, too, in a mood that gives them tenfold force. For so intense is the strain of being every instant face to face with death perhaps for a whole long hour, that the desire to end it anyhow gives an impulse beyond the gauge of rules, and that thrusts men on, as if safety only lay before them. This show of resolve reacts on the defenders and, at the end, would tend to shake their purpose, but that their losses when intrenched are so small, and those they inflict are so great, that most often the contest is unequally in their favor.

Development of Manoeuvring and of Front.—The tactical gain of the defence has forced upon the attack the necessity of manoeuvring, to strike in flank rather than in front, and this leads, on both sides, to the great extension of front now usual. Again, the great losses of the offensive lead to the more frequent use of night attacks.

Influence of Musketry.—There has been and is a steady increase in the relative importance of musketry fire, which has made it beyond all question the decisive arm, while protection from it has become the first object in intrenching. The development of a system of musketry bombardment may now be looked for, and will lead the defence to avoid its effects, by concealment generally, and chiefly in the case of the decisive strongholds, so as to diminish, as far as possible, the disadvantage of immobility.

Influence of Artillery.—The "preparing" power of artillery, when opposed to intrenchments, would appear to be less than was thought, from the results of 1866 and 1870. The distance to which guns are regulated by musketry fire, has been, and is still, increasing, and the need for improving their shooting, for using them in mass, and for oblique and enfilade fire, has become, if possible, more apparent.

Earlier Deployment.—The great increase in effective range of aimed musketry, and the considerable searching power it now shares with shrapnel, have made it necessary for the assailant largely to increase the distance of his deployment, and to confine himself to the use of small fractions for the advance; while the defender is now led to increase the relief of the shooting trenches, and to consider how to provide over-head cover with the smallest means, and those most often to be got and further to confine this, in a great measure, to protection against the small arm and shrapnel.

Fewer Works now Required.—While the labor of preparation has been increased in detail, the reliability and range of musketry defence has increased the safe intervals between works, and so has diminished their number, and further has given the power of flanking obstacles at a much greater distance than of old.

Fire having become the great arbiter in the fight, the need for fire discipline and of a thorough knowledge of what the arms can do, is now of vital importance to all combatants.

THE REAL NAPOLEON.

A NEW light is thrown upon the character of Napoleon I. by the publication of the memoirs of Mme. de Rémusat, of which the first volume has thus far been published. These memoirs which have remained hidden away in manuscript for sixty years are extracts from a private diary kept from day to day by a lady who enjoyed the exceptional advantages of an intimate acquaintance of long standing with Josephine, to whose household she was attached as Lady in Waiting. The revelations of this diary, of whose substantial truthfulness there can be no reasonable question, are sufficient to disillusionize the most stubborn worshipper of the Napoleonic myth.

Napoleon Bonaparte, she tells us, was short and rather ill made, the upper part of his frame being disproportionately long. He had thin, light-brown hair, and his eyes were a grayish blue; his complexion, which had a jaundiced hue while his habit remained thin, grew afterward to be an opaque, bloodless white. The contour of his forehead, the setting of his eye, and the line of the nose were fine, and reminded you of an antique medal. His mouth, rather pinched than otherwise, became attractive when he smiled, his teeth were regular, his chin rather short, and his jaw square and heavy. He had a neat foot and hand, of which he was particularly vain. He was accustomed to carry his head a little forward, and his eyes, habitually dull, gave his countenance in repose a pensive and meditative air, but when excited by anger his look became threatening and savage. Laughter became him, disarming, so to speak, and rejuvenating his whole visage. It was difficult, indeed, to resist the fascination of his smile, so strangely it embellished and transformed his countenance. In his dress he was always very simple, usually wearing the uniform of his guardsmen. His cleanliness was the result of system rather than of taste; he used to bathe himself sometimes in the middle of the night, fancying the practice useful to his health. His clothes were always carelessly put on, and the least tightness or stiffness in a garment was insupportable. He would tear away or break any part of his apparel which caused him the faintest annoyance, and, on grand occasions, his valets were sore put to it to keep his costume decently adjusted. In manners, and the conventional forms prescribed by good breeding, he was utterly deficient.

Although supremely remarkable in certain intellectual qualities, on the whole, nothing, in her judgment, could be baser than the soul of Napoleon Bonaparte. There was in it, Mme. de Rémusat affirms, not a trace of generosity, not a germ of real grandeur. She never knew him to admire, or even to comprehend a noble ac-

tion; he always viewed with suspicion the appearances of kind feeling, made no account of sincerity, and did not hesitate to say that he appraised a man's superiority according to the more or less ability he displayed in fashioning a falsehood. With reference to this matter he liked to recall an anecdote of his boyhood, to the effect that one of his uncles had foretold he would master the world, because he had contracted a habit of perpetual mendacity. M. de Metternich, he used to say, comes near to being a statesman, for he lies pretty well. All his methods of controlling men were selected by Bonaparte from among those tending to debase them. He dreaded the ties of affection, endeavored to isolate everybody, and never sold his favors without instilling a sense of disquietude, believing the truest way to bind individuals to your own fortune was to compromise and even ruin them in public esteem. He could pardon virtue only when he had contrived to render it impotent by ridicule.

As to Prince Metternich, we shall shortly have his private opinion of Napoleon, as his long expected memoirs will soon be published in French, German, and English. His account of the momentous interview which took place between him and Napoleon at Dresden, June 26, 1813, after the fatal Russian campaign has already appeared. Metternich says:

He talked about his operations in Russia, and was extremely diffuse about what had happened after his last return to France. Every word he said made it more and more clear to me that his exclusive object was to convince me that his reverses in 1812 were entirely attributable to the winter season, and that his prestige in France had never been greater than in consequence of those very events. After listening to him for half an hour I interrupted him with the remark that "his own words afforded me a striking proof of the necessity that he should bring all these variations of luck and ill luck to a full stop. Fate may betray you," I observed, "as he did in 1812. As a rule armies constitute only a small percentage of the population, but you are calling a whole people to arms. Have not you already, in assembling your army of to-day, swept away, so to speak, a whole generation? I have seen your soldiers; they are mere children. Your Majesty is convinced that you are indispensable to the French nation; but is not the nation also necessary to you? And when this army of feeble striplings shall have been sacrificed what will you do then?" At these words Napoleon allowed himself to be overcome by rage. He turned deadly pale, and his features worked convulsively. "You are no soldier," he exclaimed, fiercely, "and you do not understand what goes on in a soldier's soul. I have been reared on battlefields, and such a man as I am makes no account of a million men's lives!" He used a much stronger expression than this, and as he spoke, or rather screamed these words he flung his hat, which he had hitherto kept in his hand, into a corner of the room. I did not stir, but leaned upon a console between the two windows, and said, with deep emotion, "Why do you apply to me? Why do you make such a declaration to me between four walls? Let us open the doors, and may your words resound from one end of France to the other! It is not the cause which I represent that will lose thereby." Mastering his passion he replied, in a more moderate tone of voice, "The French cannot complain of me. In order to spare them I have sacrificed my Germans and my Poles. During the Russian campaign I lost 300,000 men, but only 30,000 of them were Frenchmen."

I subsequently heard that Napoleon that same evening, as he was retiring to his bedroom, said to his attendants, "I have had a long conversation with M. de Metternich. He held his own stoutly enough. Thirteen times I hurled defiance at him; thirteen times he accepted my challenge; but the gauntlet will, after all, remain in my hand!" I have every reason to believe that nobody then present was greatly edified by this utterance. Napoleon's most devoted courtiers were already beginning to doubt the infallibility of their master. His star had commenced to wane in their eyes as well as in those of Europe!

To the intellect of Napoleon Bonaparte Mme. de Rémusat renders complete justice. It would be difficult, she thinks, to conceive a mind more penetrating and wide-reaching. It is true that education had done little for it, since, at bottom, he was ignorant, having read but scantily and hurriedly. Nevertheless, his random acquisitions were assimilated, co-ordinated, and fecundated by his imagination in a most imposing way. There seemed to be a kind of immensity in the capacity of his brain, such was the multitude of ideas admitted and classified and developed, without apparent fatigue.

Concluding an able review of this book in the New York Sun, the writer, Mr. M. W. Hazeltine, says:

It was a hard task for a modest and decent pen to uncover the corruption of the First Consul's court and the hideous depravity of his immediate family. The business-like compact by which Bonaparte and Josephine agreed to overlook each other's infidelities seems almost respectable besides the gross and shameless lewdness of Napoleon's sisters. These wretched parasites of royalty spawned from the dregs of Corsica, buzzed like horseflies in the hot sun of opportunity and befouled with their ordure the pinchbeck gilding of the fraternal throne. It was this infamous trio which published, we are told, all of Josephine's failings to the world, and took care to aggravate the truth by viler calumnies of their own coining. It was they who forged the report that the first-born son of Louis was the fruit of an incestuous intrigue between the First Consul and his daughter-in-law, and it was wholly due to their persistent, malignant defamations that the life of Hortense was ruined, and her memory consigned to apparently irrevocable obloquy. In the most peremptory and solemn terms, Mme. de Rémusat affirms her conviction that the daughter of Josephine was the one pure and irreproachable being in that wanton court; that she went to her grave spotless and blameless, as she unquestionably died a broken-hearted woman. As to Pauline and Caroline Bonaparte, there is no hint to the scope of her scathing imputations, except the obvious necessity of veiling her rebuke in decorous language. Some details of their early history, which she learned from the lips of Josephine, and which attest the nature of their relations to their brother Napoleon, are too shocking for plain speech. It is enough to say that the author of this memoir distinctly endorses the worst accusation levelled at the Bonaparte family, and which recalls the appalling lusts of the Cenci and the Borgias.

The Canadian government has decided to establish a cartridge factory in connection with B battery, at Quebec. It is probable that a Canadian officer will be sent to Woolwich, England, to pass through the necessary studies and make such purchases of machinery as may be required.

THE NAVY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President and Com'dr-in-Chief

RICHARD W. THOMPSON, Secretary of the Navy.

JOHN W. HOES, Chief Clerk.

DAVID D. PORTER, Admiral of the Navy.

STEPHEN C. ROWAN, Vice-Admiral of the Navy.

BUREAU OF ORDANCE—Commodore William N. Jeffers, chief; Commander Alex. H. McCormick, assistant.

BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING—Captain (with relative rank of Commodore) Earl English, chief; Lieutenant Emory H. Tamm, assistant.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION—Captain (with relative rank of Commodore) William D. Whiting, chief.

BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS—Captain (with relative rank of Commodore) Richard L. Law, chief; Commander George C. Remey, assistant.

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY—Surgeon-General (with relative rank of Commodore) Philip S. Wales, chief; Surgeon Adrian Hudson, assistant.

BUREAU OF PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING—Paymaster-General (with relative rank of Commodore) George F. Cutter, chief; Paymaster Chas. P. Thompson, assistant.

BUREAU OF STEAM ENGINEERING—Engineer-in-Chief (with relative rank of Commodore) William H. Shock, chief; Chief Engineer Henry W. Fitch, assistant.

BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR—Chief Naval Constructor (with relative rank of Commodore) John W. Easby, chief.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL—Captain William B. Remey, Marine Corps, Acting J. A. G.

SIGNAL OFFICE—Captain Clark H. Wells, chief; Lieutenant Edward W. Verry, assistant.

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE—Captain Samuel R. Franklin, superintendent; Commander Allen V. Reed, assistant.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, supt.

NAVAL ACADEMY, PHILADELPHIA—Commodore D. McN. Fairfax.

NAVAL ACADEMY—Rear-Admiral George B. Balch.

FLAG OFFICERS AFLOAT.

NORTH ATLANTIC—Rear-Admiral R. H. Wymann.

SOUTH ATLANTIC—Commodore Andrew Bryson.

EUROPEAN STATION—Rear-Admiral John C. Howell.

PACIFIC STATION—Rear-Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers.

ASIATIC STATION—Rear-Admiral T. H. Patterson.

COMMANDANTS NAVY-YARDS AND STATIONS.

Commodore John C. Beaumont, Portsmouth, N. H.

Commodore George M. Ransom, Boston, Mass.

Commodore J. W. A. Nicholson, New York.

Commodore Pelce Crosby, League Island, Penn.

Commodore John C. Feibiger, Washington, D. C.

Commodore Aaron K. Hughes, Norfolk, Va.

Captain George E. Belknap, Pensacola, Fla.

Commodore E. R. Colhoun, Mare Island.

Commodore Edward Simpson, Naval Station, New London, Ct.

Commodore Thomas Patterson, Naval Station, Port Royal, S. C.

COMMANDANT MARINE CORPS.

Colonel Commandant, Charles G. McCawley.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

* Iron clads: a. s., Asiatic station; e. s., European station; n. s., North Atlantic station; p. s., Pacific station; s. s., South Atlantic station; s. s., special service. The iron-clads Ajax, Comdr. H. B. Seely; Lakehill, Lieut. Jos. Marthon; Lehigh, Lieut.-Comdr. Geo. R. Durand; Mahopac, Lieut. Wm. W. Rhodes; Manhattan, Lieut.-Comdr. C. M. Anthony, are laid up at Brandon, Va.

ADAMS (p. s.), Commander John A. Howell. Mare Island. Repairing, and nearly ready for sea.

Expected to be ready for sea this week.

ALARM* (s. s.), Lieut. R. M. G. Brown. New York.

ALASKA (p. s.), Capt. George Brown.

Was off Iquique Dec. 13.

ALERT, Comdr. C. L. Huntington. Shanghai.

ALLIANCE (e. s.), Commander A. R. Yates. At Norfolk Navy-yard.

ASHUELLOT (a. s.), Comdr. Mortimer L. Johnson. At Shanghai.

COLORADO, Capt. Bancroft Gherardi. Receiving Ship, New York.

CONSTELLATION, Captain Henry Wilson. En route to New York.

Captain Henry Wilson, in his official report from Gibraltar, says the Constellation arrived at that place Dec. 3. He gives an account of the rescue of the crew of merchantmen, of which a fuller account is given by a correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, who writes as follows from Gibraltar, Dec. 4: "The United States steamer Constellation, having on board a relief crew for the Trenton, American flagship in European waters, arrived here at 4 p. m. yesterday, after a passage of twenty-three days from Sandy Hook. She has a complement of 350 men and officers, and the crew to be relieved will return upon her, which will be as soon as the stores are transferred. The Trenton has been here two weeks awaiting the arrival of the Constellation, and the Wyoming left for Cadiz five days ago, with instructions to keep a lookout for the relief ship. The Constellation had a pleasant voyage from Sandy Hook, which she left on the 10th of November, until the 21st following, when in the vicinity of the Western Isles. Here she encountered bad weather, lasting five days, becoming so severe on the 23d as to cause her to heave to for twenty-two hours. While hove to on the following morning (Monday) a sail was descried astern, evidently bearing down on the Constellation, and when within five miles displayed signals of distress, with flag at half-mast. Sail was made hurriedly on the man-of-war, and she at once went to the relief of the stranger. In about one hour the vessels were near each other, and the life-boat of the rescuing ship manned, in charge of Ensign L. K. Reynolds, accompanied by Surgeon Whiting, whose presence was thought probably necessary. The sea was raging at the time the boat was lowered, and doubts were entertained for its safety. The bark was reported injured beyond repair. Mr. Reynolds then took off the master, a boy, and two seamen, and landed them safely on board. Capt. Wilson at once ordered a new crew into the boat and delegated Lieut. T. A. Lyons, Ensign B. Tappan, and Carpenter J. A. Dixon as a board of survey to visit the Olivo, and if in the condition reported by her master, to take off the remaining eight men and scuttle her. They could not board the vessel because of the heavy seas. At one time they were nearly swamped, and were forced to return without being able to make a report. Another boat in the meantime, in charge of Mr. Reynolds, was sent to rescue the balance of the crew, and returned with five of them. Darkness had now arrived, and it was thought the Olivo would live until the morning. The officer of the deck, Lieut. W. Goodwin, said the Constellation would stand by until that time, and then send for the remaining three men. Mr. Reynolds expressed the

opinion that she would not see the night through, and offered to go again if a crew of men could be secured. A volunteer crew was then asked for, and hardly had the invitation been offered before twelve the number of brave fellows needed answered it. Mr. Reynolds was instructed to set fire to the Olivo as soon as all was safely off, and to do so he was forced to swim to and from the vessel to carry out his instructions. The last boat arrived back at 8 o'clock, having ended a day of hard work in the cause of humanity. About 9 o'clock the flames, as the Olivo began to burn, were seen on board the Constellation, which remained hove to all night, and in the morning no trace of the bark was visible. The noble conduct of Ensign Reynolds deserves praise for the successful effort he made, and the honor of the rescue must be divided among the brave blue jackets who assisted him. The relief crew will be transferred to the Trenton on the 6th inst. A heavy gale prevailed in this harbor on the arrival of the Constellation, and the starboard anchor was lost last night by the parting of the cable, upon which the strain was too great."

CONSTITUTION (s. s.), Captain Oscar F. Stanton. Cruising in the Gulf of Mexico.

ENTERPRISE (e. s.), Comdr. Thos. O. Selfridge. Tripoli.

FORTUNE (s. s.), Norfolk, Va.

In dry dock at Norfolk for repairs to shaft, and to have bottom cleaned.

FRANKLIN, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Receiving Ship, Norfolk.

INDEPENDENCE, Capt. Wm. P. McCann. Receiving Ship, Mare Island.

INTREPID (s. s.), Lieut. F. H. Delano. New York.

JAMESTOWN (s. s.), Comdr. Lester A. Beardalee. Sitka, Alaska.

KEARSARGE (n. s. s.), Comdr. Henry F. Picking. Port Royal. Ordered on a cruise to the Central American coast, etc.

LAOKAWANNA (p. s.), Capt. Ralph Chandler. Apia, Samonian Islands, when last heard from, Sept. 20.

MARION (n. s. s.), Comdr. Francis M. Bunce. En route to South Pacific Station.

MICHIGAN (s. s. lakes), Comdr. Geo. W. Hayward. Erie.

MINNESOTA, Capt. S. B. Luce. "Apprentice Ship, Wintering at New London.

From this vessel "St. Claus" writes to the Washington Star: "We left Brooklyn Navy-yard about 1 o'clock p. m. on the 19th instant, and during the passage encountered very disagreeable weather, arriving here, however, safely the next day about 9:30 o'clock a. m. On Sunday divine service was performed on board as usual. The near approach of the annual Christmas festivities brought with it the customary excitement. After supper on Christmas eve the band was ordered up, portable benches were brought aft and arranged on the starboard side of 'half-deck,' and the 'boys' (apprentices) began to amuse themselves in singing, recitations, music, and dancing, until turning-in-time (9 p. m.) an hour later than usual. 'Old Typos' was brought up from below and gave some very amusing humorous recitations, which were loudly applauded by the officers, as well as the 'boys.' All seemed to enjoy the occasion, listening to the songs and recitations, as well as the good and bountiful cheer which had been provided, while the 'band' added to the occasion with a special composition by the bandmaster, besides selections. After the 'wreck' had been cleared away the boys again were privileged to amuse themselves as on Christmas eve. A Pin-a-4 company being at 'London' (New London), quite a number of boys were 'mustered,' and attended the evening performance, while those who could not go amused themselves on board."

MONOCACY (a. s.), Comdr. Geo. W. Sumner. Shanghai.

MONTAUK*, Lieut. George M. Book. Washington, D. C.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, Commo. Thos. Pattison. Store Ship, Port Royal.

NIPISIC, Comdr. C. H. Schoonmaker.

Has been ordered to proceed without delay to La Guayra, Venezuela, to inquire into the circumstances attending the withdrawal or expulsion of Mr. Eckert, United States Commercial Agent at that port, from Barcelona, to which place he had been sent on public duty. The Nipsic will touch at St. Thomas to take on board Mr. Eckert, who is reported as being a refugee at that place. On completing this duty, the Nipsic will return to Hampton Roads, whence she sailed Dec. 30.

ONWARD (p. s.), Lieut.-Comdr. Chas. J. Barclay. Store Ship, Callao, Peru.

PALOS (a. s.), Lieut.-Comdr. Jas. G. Green.

Left Shanghai Nov. 8 for Tientsin.

PASSAIC*, Comdr. Jas. D. Graham. Receiving Ship, Washington.

PAWNEE (n. s. s.), Mate Jos. Reid. Hospital Ship, Port Royal, S. C.

PENACOLA (f. s. p. s.), Comdr. Edw. Terry. Callao, Dec. 13.

PORTSMOUTH, Lieut.-Comdr. A. S. Crowninshield. Training Ship.

POWHATAN (n. n. s.), Capt. D. L. Braine. New York.

QUINNEBAUG (e. s.), Comdr. Norman H. Farquhar. Leghorn at last accounts.

RANGER (a. s.), Comdr. Robert Boyd.

Left Yokohama Nov. 7 for San Francisco.

RICHMOND (f. s. s.), Capt. A. E. K. Benham. Now due at Hong Kong.

RIO BRAVO (s. s. Brownsville, Texas), Lieut.-Comdr. Chas. F. Schmitz.

SARATOGA, Comdr. Robley D. Evans. Training Ship, Washington.

SHENANDOAH (f. s. s. s.) Capt. Robt. F. R. Lewis.

Commodore A. Bryson, commanding the United States naval force on the South Atlantic Station, in a communication dated Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 1, 1879, informs the Navy Department that the flagship Shenandoah arrived at Rio on Dec. 1, after a passage of fifty-three days from New York. All on board were well. The Commodore states in his despatch that as the hot and unhealthy season is approaching, he will proceed, after taking in such stores as are needed, to Montevideo, Uruguay, leaving Rio on or about Dec. 5. He also informs the Department that, having assumed command of the United States naval force on the South Atlantic Station, he has announced the following staff officers, viz.: General Staff—Surgeon Michael Bradley, fleet surgeon; Paymaster James E. Tolfree, fleet paymaster; Chief Engineer W. J. Landin, fleet engineer, and Capt. E. P. Meeker, U. S. M. C., fleet marine officer. Personal Staff—Capt. R. F. R. Lewis, chief of staff; Master H. P. McIntosh, flag lieutenant; Ensign York Noel, secretary, and Cadet Midshipman E. H. Tillman, aid to commander-in-chief.

St. Louis, Captain Joseph P. Fyfe. Receiving Ship, League Island.

St. Mary's, Captain Henry Erben. N. Y. School Ship. Swatara, Commander W. T. Sampson.

Was put in commission at Boston Dec. 24.

TALLAPOOSA (s. s.), Lieut. David C. McRitchie. Left Washington Dec. 30 for New York and Boston.

TIOONDEROGA (s. s.), Comdr. B. J. Cromwell. Probably now on coast of India.

TENNESSEE (f. s. s. a. s.), Capt. D. B. Harmony.

TRENTON (f. s. e. s.), Captain John Lee Davis. Villefranche.

TUSCARORA (p. s.), Comdr. John W. Philip.

Arrived at Acapulco on Dec. 4, and was to have sailed on the 14th for La Union.

Commander John W. Philip, commanding the *Tuscarora*, reports, at sea, under date of Dec. 1, the death of Thomas Carey, carpenter and caulker, serving on that vessel, at Port Angeles, west coast of Mexico, Nov. 26, 1879, of intermittent fever. His remains were buried ashore at Port Angeles.

VANDALIA (n. a. s.), Comdr. Richard W. Meade. New York.

WABASH, Capt. S. Livingston Breese. Receiving Ship, Boston.

WACHUSETT (s. s.), Comdr. Byron Wilson. Rio de Janeiro.

WYANDOTTE*, Lieut. C. H. Arnold. Washington.

WYOMING (e. s.), Comdr. John C. Watson. Gibraltar.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The coast survey steamer *Blake* sailed Dec. 27 from the naval anchorage, Norfolk, for Key West.

On New Year's Eve the cadets of the Naval Academy gave a performance at the gymnasium, the pieces selected being "Our Boys."

The *Vallejo Chronicle* thinks the recent order relating to the uniform of paymasters' yeoman, ships' yeoman, writers, and machinists will be a "set-back" to many of the petty officers who have been in the habit of assuming the airs and importance of staff and line officers, and flirting with the Vallejo girls.

GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL ORDERS No. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, issued this month, publish the cases of the following-named men of the Navy, tried by General Court-martial, for various offences: Captain of After Guard, William Baker; Ordinary Seamen, E. J. O'Brien, Michael Keegan, Joseph Willis, and James Saunders; Seaman, Thomas Savage; 1st Class Boy, William Ward; Privates, John Schultze and Thomas Knowles, Marine Corps; Landsman, C. W. Greene. The sentences awarded in most of these cases are by no means light, but evidently in accord with the offences committed.

The Marine Regulations Board continues its daily session at the Brooklyn Barracks, and, although the members have agreed to preserve silence as to their transactions, enough is known to convey the impression that the work is being so thoroughly done that there will be some resemblance hereafter between the administration of one post and another, and a wholesome restraint be put upon ignorance and caprice. The most casual observer can see how much such action is needed, and how surely, though slowly, ancient obstacles must yield to the tidal wave of improvement, which had its inception none too soon. Another month will hardly complete the labors of the Board, which will then have a gauntlet, or a muck, to run in Washington that may materially change them.

By the Naval Academy Register recently published, the following cadets are classed as stars of the classes in which they appear, they having received the highest mark attainable during the academic year: Cadet Midshipmen: First class (61 members), P. R. Alger, Herman G. Dresel, H. C. Poundstone; second class (79 members), John A. Hoogewerff, Joseph H. Linnard, John L. Rees, F. C. Rider, John L. Schock, F. E. Sutton, and Joseph J. Woodward; third class (52 members), John T. Arnold, Louis S. Bennett, and Louis Nixon. Cadet Engineers: First class (18 members), A. W. Stahl, Wm. F. Durand; third class, Emil Theiss, R. W. Gatewood, James H. Fitts, and W. H. P. Crighton.

MONDAY afternoon, says the *Vallejo Chronicle*, was a regular Waterloo for the employees in the Department of Construction and Repairs in the Navy-yard. All but seventeen of the shipwrights were suspended, and those remaining were placed on half time. Fifteen laborers in the same department were laid off until the 1st of January, and the balance of the gang put on half time. The caulkers, oakum spinners, and the men in the other shops of construction, with the exception of the ship joiners who are working on the *Adams*, were let off on half time. This is the largest suspension, outside of the stone dock, which has taken place at one time in the Navy-yard during the past year.

"OFFICERS who may be detailed for duty on the *Galena* will have occasion," a correspondent writes us, "to congratulate themselves no matter where she may go. Naval Constructor Boush's considerate labors for the comfort of those who have to 'go down to the sea in ships' are already well known and highly appreciated in the Navy, and the completion of his present task will gain for him new and well deserved laurels. The *Galena* will be, without doubt, the jewel of the fleet, the royal yacht. Old time cruisers in the *Potomac*, *Savannah*, and *Jamestown* types of marine residences will stand aghast and hesitate to risk themselves in a ship with berth-deck air ports so large that 'inside blinds' are necessary and actually fitted to keep out surplus light. If one can imagine a hammock-slung advocate of '41 date' contemplating a midshipman lying in a steerage berth of bird's eye maple and black walnut, with a window two feet from his side, through which, if of medium size, he could get into a boat, he will have a picture. The writing desks and lockers are of the same beautiful construction, and an inlaid floor en suite, with pantries as pretty as a parlor, excites surprise that so much beauty and utility for so little outlay has been so long coming. The cabin will be a gem, and the ward-room most comfortable. Each state-room has a permanent washstand supplied from tanks in the wings of the pantry, and the finish throughout is of natural wood, and the fittings of the best. The prison, or 'brig,' is in the centre of the berth-deck, around the foremast, and the sick-bay in the usual place. Commodious lockers and convenient musket-racks have been provided for the marine guard, and proper facilities for the men of the engineer's department, the dispensary, and the paymaster's assistants. In fact, no one has been overlooked, and the ship will be as complete as she will be pretty. Her boilers are all in, and yards crossed, and she should be ready to go into commission in February or March."

SIR HENRY THOMPSON maintains that the only way for travellers to avoid typhoid fever is to abstain altogether from drinking any of the water of the countries through which they travel till it has been boiled.

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 30.—Lieutenant John T. Sullivan, to special duty in the Bureau of Navigation on the 6th January.

Cadet Engineer W. B. Boggs, to special duty at Wilmington, Delaware, on the 6th January, superintending the construction of the machinery of the fish commissioner steamer Fish Hawk.

Passed Assistant Paymaster H. T. B. Harris, to examination for promotion.

JANUARY 2.—Passed Assistant Engineer John Lowe, to the Passaic, at Washington.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 27.—Assistant Surgeon Charles J. Nourse, from the Tallapoosa, and ordered to duty at the Naval Hospital, Washington.

Master Francis Winslow, from duty on the Coast Survey, and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

JANUARY 2.—Passed Assistant Engineer H. H. Cline, from the Passaic, and ordered to the Swatara.

Passed Assistant Engineer Levi T. Safford, from the Swatara, and granted sick leave.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Lieutenant Theodore T. Wood for six months from the 1st January, with permission to leave the United States.

LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of Rear-Admiral Wm. E. Le Roy has been extended two months from December 31.

DELAY REPORTING.

Passed Assistant Engineer Jefferson Brown has been authorized to delay reporting for duty on board the *Albatross* until January 10.

LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending Dec. 31, 1879:

Thomas Carey, carpenter and caulker, November 26, U. S. S. *Tuscarora*.

Chester Hatfield, commander, December 15, at Vallejo, California.

NAVAL ACADEMY.—An Annapolis despatch to the *Philadelphia Press*, Dec. 29, says: The report that a young cadet midshipman at the Naval Academy had attempted recently to commit suicide by jumping into the river caused the authorities at that institution to make an investigation into the matter. The proceeding disclosed the fact that the report was true, and that the cadet, while laboring under the influence of liquor, had thus attempted to take his life in the presence of several comrades. It appears that he had been restricted on the day the suicide was intended, and had taken "French leave" from the Academy. He visited the city in company with several comrades, and while there had drank pretty freely of wine and other beverages. Returning to the Academy in the afternoon, he went straight to the river and plunged in. His comrades were amazed at his rashness, and had not the least idea that he intended suicide, but rather that he had fallen overboard accidentally, and it was not until the unfortunate cadet was pulled out that the situation of affairs was made known to them. He then said his intention was to commit suicide, and supplemented this by requesting his comrades to shoot him through the heart. He is compelled to serve in solitary confinement for such time as the authorities think the offence justifies the incarceration. The young cadet referred to is the son of a leading citizen of South Carolina and an ex-Governor of that State.

In the case of Cadet Smith Salisbury of New York, who was recently tried by Court-martial for "hazing," no report has been made, and it is doubtful whether the report will be made known before the June examination. This is done to find out what will be the relative standing of the cadet in his class at the end of the year. Should he retain his present standing (which is very low) the "bilging" power will take all responsibility from the sentence of the court and hence he will be dropped.

CONCERNING appointments to positions in the staff departments the *Omaha Herald* says: Officers who have shown undoubted merit by a close, correct and rigid performance of duty in the departments mentioned, that is the quartermasters and subsistence departments, should be the ones to be selected for such appointments. The record of deserving officers can be readily ascertained from the bureau officers, who would be only too willing to add the recommendations. If this reward was held out to officers the affairs of the departments would undoubtedly be better and more rigidly transacted. There are a number of young officers who, having shown distinguished abilities in the departments considered, and debarred from appointments therein because they have not the necessary political influence, or as a rule, are too remote to urge their claims.

The following officers are reported in New York city during the past week: Army—Brevet Colonel George B. Carse. Navy—Rear-Admiral James H. Strong, Paymaster A. J. Clark.

Harper's Weekly says: Although the late President Andrew Johnson did really and truly attain to the full stature of a practical tailor, and was never ashamed of it, it is not so generally known how nearly a member of the present Cabinet came to devote his life and talents to the same calling. Recently an acquaintance called upon him, bringing with him a stranger, whom he presented to the Secretary. In a short time Mr. Everts came in, and Mr. Thompson introduced both gentlemen to him, but could not remember the stranger's name. "Mott, Randolph Mott, is my name," said the latter. "Are you Randolph Mott who used to live in Culpepper County?" asked the Secretary. "I am," said the other. "Well, Mott, I'm glad to see you," said Mr. Thompson; and turning again to the Secretary of State, he added, "Mr. Everts, let me now introduce to you the man who taught me how to sew." And then he explained that when a boy he had intended to become a tailor, and worked for a time in the shop of Mr. Mott, who was of that trade.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

CAMP ON WHITE RIVER.

CAMP 22 MILES SOUTH OF RAWLINS, WY., } CHRISTMAS DAY.

The present road from Rawlins to Snake River, 64 miles, crosses the Continental Divide, or Separation Pass. At this point on Snake River, a battalion (two companies) 9th Infantry, Capt. Hay, commanding, are encamped in log huts—this point being a Subsistence Quartermaster Department to forage trains, etc. Thence the old road is 42½ miles to Bear River, and crossing William's Fork, Milk Creek, at the point where Thornburgh fell, it is 56 more to Camp Ute Expedition on White River. Total from Snake, 98½. After being sent out by Gen. Crook to take charge of the line of couriers, Lieut. C. A. H. McCauley surveyed the route for a new winter road from White to Snake River, taking the first Army wagon over it. This is a fine natural route, running through a sage brush country, and over low divides, instead of a series of canons like the former, and there a fine military road has been built solely by the labor of troops from White River. Distance, White to Snake, 84 miles, or 14½ less than the old road. On it were erected three large log and jacal stations by the courier construction party, as complete as a stage line, each one having rooms for courier, and also for three soldiers as guards there, stables for eight head of stock, granary for forage, hay corral, etc.

Two weeks ago, while surveying by order of Gen. Crook, a new road from Steele to Snake River, and one to connect with the new one from Snake River, Lieut. McCauley and two others had feet and hands frosted in a terrible snow storm. Saturday night and Sunday, being only 1½ miles from a cabin, they could not reach it on account of the storm.

A terrible winter has set in. Wagons that left Rawlins (Dec. 1st to 7th), have not yet gotten further than Snake River. Snow deep and badly drifted. The Government trains of Wagonmaster White, and 7th Infantry baggage train, Capt. Clifford, 7th Infantry, in charge, with whom also are Dr. Petters, U. S. A., and Lieut. McCauley, en route to White River, in two days out from Rawlins, 20th inst., had only gotten 23 miles, and were snowed in. Three teamsters had deserted their teams on account of the fearful cold and snow. Wagonmaster White and seventeen of his teamsters had been frozen in various places; some badly. The pack train of 250 animals, now running from White to Snake River, assisting trains heavily laden are blocked by the snow.

Troops at White River comfortably huddled for the winter; camp in a beautiful location, and health of troops very good. Capt. F. F. Whitehead, Subsistence Department, has arrived, and is now depot commissary; Lieut. Reed, 7th Infantry, is depot quartermaster and a very efficient officer; Lieut.-Col. Gilbert, 7th Infantry, is commanding officer of cantonment.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

A despatch was received at the War Department Jan. 2 from Asst. Adjt.-Gen. Whipple at Chicago, which says: "Lieut. Payne telegraphs Dec. 30 that General Hatch arrived at Cline's Ranch on the 28th all right. Ouray, Jack, and several other chiefs met him there yesterday. The whole party leave on horseback for Indian Creek. Wagons abandoned on account of snow."

According to a despatch in the *Denver Tribune*, which wants confirmation, Ouray arrived at Los Pinos, Dec. 25, and affected great surprise when asked where the prisoners were, and said he had not understood that the commission wanted the Indians as prisoners of war, and had not thought that any of them were to be tried; but he had thought that all of them were to go to Washington to have a talk with the Great Father on the subject of their wrongs.

The correspondent of the *Denver Tribune*, who sends this, is confident that the list of criminals asked for contains the names of those who subjected the women of the agency to outrage. He says: "The fact of this outrage have heretofore been carefully concealed. It is well known that the story of the women as given to the public, and their testimony under oath, differ widely, and the crimes which they accuse the Indians in their sworn testimony would suffice to hang any man of whatever color without the formality of a trial, in the twinkling of an eye."

A despatch from Washington, Dec. 30, says: "In accordance with the decision arrived at in Cabinet meeting this afternoon, Secretary Schurz has telegraphed General Hatch to-night that the friendly Southern Ute chiefs may be brought to Washington."

A Tucson despatch, via San Francisco, Dec. 23, states that advices from Camp Rucker are to the effect that Geronimo, an Apache chief, with 83 of his band of Indians, has just surrendered to the military authorities at Camp Rucker, and will be sent to the San Carlos Indian reservation at once. This is the band which has been degrading for some months past along the border, and did much of the work credited to Victoria's band.

A private letter states that the 30 Indians from the West, at school in Carlisle, Pa., under Capt. Pratt, are behaving well, and attend church regularly. Several can recite the Lord's prayer perfectly, and all are learning useful occupations. Spotted Tail, who has three children among the pupils, expects to visit the school in the spring with his wife. Sixteen Indians, 11 girls, and 5 boys, ranging in age from 16 to 20 years, in charge of W. D. E. Andrus, of the Yankton Agency, passed through Baltimore on the way to the school at Hampton, Va.

The starving of twenty-five Blackfoot Indians at Bow River, Manitoba, as reported in despatches from Fort McLeod, may be regarded as an outcome of the "Canadian Plan" of dealing with the Indians, giving them plenty of hunting ground and leaving them to take care of themselves.

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General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lady, Washington, D. C.;
Admiral David D. Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.; General
Geo. Sykes, U. S. Army; Brig.-Gen. I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army,
Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army;
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INASMUCH as the facts below stated have been distorted and mis-
represented, it is proper that we should give the simple and exact
truth regarding the transactions referred to.

A paper called the *Army and Navy Gazette* was started at Wash-
ington a year ago, and soon was printing conspicuously on its lead-
ing page the untrue and misleading statement that it had a more
extensive circulation among the officers and men of the Army and
Navy than any other paper. In reality it had but a few hundreds
of subscribers, and its publication was a losing business, of
whose improvement there was little hope. Though he did not so
announce himself and was not so known, Mr. EDMUND
HUDSON was the proprietor of that paper, and its unprofitable
condition and gloomy prospects led him to seek to dispose of it
by the time six months had passed, and we can state on the
authority of an officer of the Army connected with the War De-
partment, that it was offered for sale in Washington for a trifling
sum. When it was finally offered to us, in default of any
other purchaser, we were foolish enough to make an arrangement
with Mr. HUDSON to take the good will of his moribund paper for
a merely nominal sum, departing from our long-established rule to
let such papers alone to live out their lives, while the JOURNAL
went on in its appointed way.

Mr. HUDSON offered his paper to us at a price which we declined
to pay, and the negotiations were close. Subsequently he tele-
graphed, asking for an offer of a lesser price, which he promptly
accepted. Two days later, and before the transaction could be
completed by a proper transfer of his accounts, he issued the last
number of his paper with an announcement that the JOURNAL
would be sent to complete his subscription contracts. Meanwhile
he signed and transmitted to us a positive agreement, amended
and written out by himself, in which this language occurs:

It is expressly understood and agreed that the said W. C. and
F. P. Church assume no liabilities of any kind incurred hereafter
by me (HUDSON) in the publication of said paper, the *Army and
Navy Gazette*, or hereafter to be incurred, and that W. C. and F.
P. Church are in no way responsible for any such liabilities.

We were ready, however, independently of the contract, to send
the JOURNAL to the *Gazette* subscribers—some 500 in all—for the
period of time the amount of their advance subscriptions to the
cheaper *Gazette* would pay for, provided they were willing to take
it in satisfaction of the debt due them from HUDSON. Mr. HUDSON
had received the money from these advance subscriptions, and had
agreed to give a certain paper for specified lengths of time in
return for it. We could not, as everybody will see, without the
subscriber's consent, supply them with another paper in fulfill-
ment of his contracts with them. In justice to the subscribers we
already had we could not give it to them at a less price than we
charged others. We accordingly notified them of the facts and
circumstances, and asked their wishes in the matter. Most of the
Gazette subscribers consented to the terms offered by the
JOURNAL, and have since received this paper in accordance
with them. Some have thus far expressed to us no wishes in
the matter, though we have waited for their replies to our circular
letters, which were sent to the addresses on a list given us by Mr.
HUDSON, which, as we have since found, did not include all those
to whom he was indebted. In this circular we said:

We have not sent you the JOURNAL in place of the *Gazette*, for the
reason that we do not feel authorized, without your consent, to
substitute any other contract for the one made with the *Gazette*. If
you are willing to receive the JOURNAL in lieu of the *Gazette*, we
will send it, leaving you entirely free to continue it or not, as you
think proper, beyond the time paid for by the credit due you from
the *Gazette*. Please inform us as to your wishes.

It is undeniable that all the subscribers to the *Gazette* were
rightfully and legally entitled to the return of their money when
that paper was stopped, unless they were satisfied with the terms
offered them by the JOURNAL. We accordingly obtained from
Mr. HUDSON his promise, made before and repeated after the sale,
to return their money to those of his subscribers who were dis-
satisfied with the arrangement and demanded it back. That was
the only fair way, and the only way we should have deemed honor-
able if we had been in his place.

Rather than that any of the Army and Navy should have lost
the money they paid him we would have preferred to return it
ourselves, if the dissatisfied subscribers had notified us after being
refused just ce by him, and we are ready to return it now to any
one of them who wish to be even constructively responsible.
We are vexed that we had any dealings with Mr. HUDSON what-

ever, and wish we had left his paper to die of inanition, as it
assuredly must have done.

In a letter written by Mr. HUDSON, dated Washington, July
31, 1879, enclosing the signed contract of sale, he said: "I of
course agree not to engage in any publication here to the injury
of the good will transferred to you."

His desire to find excuse for escaping from a contract which
still legally binds him, and violating his pledge voluntarily given,
is, we are convinced, the real explanation of Mr. HUDSON's mis-
representations regarding our transactions with him.

LESSONS OF THE UTE TROUBLES.

THE stage at which the Ute trouble has now arrived
illustrates afresh a truth which has been many times
exemplified in our history—the hopelessness of efficient
and successful Indian management under the double-
headed system now in vogue. Ever since the Indian
Office was taken from the War Department, in order to
help fill out a programme for the newly-started Depart-
ment of the Interior, the military and the civil control
of the red men have been at cross purposes. Civilians
start Indian wars by their incompetency or their dis-
honesty, and then coolly clear the stage and whistle on
the Army, to play the bloodier part in the drama. In
this Ute business, we find Mr. SCHURZ announcing be-
forehand that if he does not succeed in his so-called
peace commission, he will turn the Utes over to the
Army. And at the present juncture, when the failure
of the Los Pinos negotiations seems inevitable, we again
find him coolly saying that if they really have failed, he
is ready to let the troops go forward.

Thus, Mr. SCHURZ proposed to take the credit of the
peace negotiations in case they had succeeded, but to
turn over the final responsibility, in case of failure. And
it is by no means clear that the problem is so easy of
solution now as before winter set in. If war is to be re-
newed, the people to shoot and to be shot, to campaign
through ice and snow, to freeze in bivouac and to drop
exhausted on the march, are not Indian agents, superin-
tendents, and inspectors, but the officers and men of the
Army. We think that no system of Indian management
can be perfect which thus makes the authority that de-
cides on waging war so distinct from the authority that
actually wages it. We see nothing of the sort in other
governments or in any other relations of our own Gov-
ernment. The President, under our system, is usually
only a figurehead in the matter, and assents alike to the
proposals of his Secretary of the Interior and to those of
the Secretary of War. But above all is a single war-
waging authority needed in the case of Indians. They
cannot even comprehend the *divisum imperium* of civil
and military domination that we set up over them. They
are accustomed to a degree of absolutism, under the
term chieftaincy; and the direct consequence of our
present system of dealing with them is that the one
charge which they have constantly brought against the
Government is not that of tyranny, or of cruelty, or of
indifference, as it might have been, but of duplicity,
double-dealing, "the forked tongue."

We do not urge the return of the Indian Office to the
War Department from which it was taken—that must
be left for Congress to determine as it pleases. But we
do urge the presence of military men in the frontier
posts of the Indian Office, even if that office remains
where it is. The array of clerks and accountants may
well be drawn from civilians, for their occupation is not
a military one; but all the work done among the Indians,
whether of governing them, distributing supplies, and
so on, should be assigned to Army officers, detailed for
the purpose. Then we should have Army instincts, ex-
perience, and training at work among the Indians, and
agents would no longer call for troops to settle every
little trouble.

If we review this Ute business we find the whole
trouble beginning in an act of inconceivable folly by a
civilian agent. MEEKER, the White River agent, had
been an agricultural editor, and seems to have been an
enthusiast on the subject of adding his quota to those
swelling statistics of "acres ploughed" and "bush
corn raised," which form the chief pride of the annual re-
port of an Indian commissioner. Accordingly, he began
to run his plough on land used by one of the Utes, called
JOHNSON, for pasturing his horses. As the land in ques-
tion was near JOHNSON'S house, and as his horses were
his whole fortune, he being able to sell them or to let
out the use of them if he liked, he refused to let the
agent take this land for ploughing. Why should he
have done so? The agent called for troops, and then,
at the last moment, as the despatches will show, saw the
folly of his course, and suggested to Maj. THORNBURG
not to come quite up to the agency. THORNBURG, how-
ever, could not allow any such half-way measures—if
the agent did not need the troops he should not have
called for them; but when he once did call, it would not
do to allow the Indians to dictate what their orders
should be.

The battle, the massacre, and the subsequent events

are matters of history. But the point to note is that if any Army officer had been in MEEKER'S place no trouble probably would have occurred. No Army officer would have started a war over a question of doing a few more acres of ploughing. Gen. MILES, whose success in Indian fighting has been phenomenal, takes the broad ground that the very thing to do with the Indian is to lead him to a pastoral life, instead of trying to turn him forthwith into a farmer or a market gardener. It is impossible to suppose that an officer of such ideas of what Indian management consists in, would undertake to reprove an Indian whom he found usefully employing for grazing a patch of thirty acres on a reservation containing million acres. In any event there would have been no angry personal feeling about the matter. But when we find the agent MEEKER writing that these Utes "need to be taught how to behave, and I might as well teach them as anybody," and when we find one of his daughters, even before the massacre was known, vilifying all Indians as soulless curs, it is clear enough that these are not the people for Indian agents and supervisors. That kind of talk might come from some rough fighters, but it is supposed that the civilian management was organized in order to avoid that spirit, popularly but erroneously supposed to be the military one. If the present system does not even have that merit, it has nothing at all.

In the matter of the Los Pinos commission, we see the same miserable conduct of affairs. When once the Indians had gone on the war-path, they needed to be reduced to subjugation.

Chief OURAY and Agent STANLEY, at this juncture, proposed a peace council—in itself not a bad suggestion. Mr. SCHURZ took up the suggestion and appointed two excellent commissioners, Gens. HATCH and ADAMS, with OURAY a good third. The first result was a brilliant success—the unconditional surrender of the captive women; but when the council was held, Mr. SCHURZ insisted on terms so one-sided that from present appearances it has come to nothing, and may come to worse than nothing. Mr. SCHURZ coolly proposed that the Utes should deliver up about a dozen of their people to be hanged—for that is what a trial would amount to; and still more coolly he proposed no *quid pro quo*. Had the consideration been a pledge to refrain from war, to let bygones be bygones, and to restore the Utes to White River, there might have been some sense in the proposition—although, to our thinking, war should be war and peace should be peace, without mixing the two in legal reprisals and revenges. But Mr. SCHURZ offered nothing whatever—not a solitary pledge or advantage. On the contrary, as we all know, he has had concocted and introduced into Congress a plan for robbing the Utes of their reservation. So one-sided an arrangement ought not to succeed—we are persuaded that it cannot succeed unless by keeping the Utes in ignorance of the extensive plan of plunder now preparing for them.

In the whole plan, too, there is no acknowledgment of the stupidity and tyranny of the hapless agent, who sacrificed himself and his family. Mr. SCHURZ evidently aims to have the proceedings based on the theory of a causeless and wanton outbreak. But we must give the devil his due—even a red devil; and it is absurd to suppose that these Indians would sacrifice their annuities, their lands, and all their hold on the Government without any provocation. From beginning to end, to our thinking, the business has been a botch. If Mr. SCHURZ wished to interfere at all, it should have been to make peace, which he could easily have made, as all peace is made, by not raking over too much the atrocities of war. If he did not intend to make peace, his interference was most unwise. By making propositions, conditions, and expecting a wholly one-sided arrangement, he, as it looks at present, has only complicated the military situation, and may hand back the Ute problem to the Army much worse tangled than ever.

ENGLAND AND HER COLONIES.

A STATEMENT is telegraphed from Montreal to the daily journals of the 25th, that the Provincial Government is about establishing a cartridge factory. This, following a previous intimation that our neighbors are also calculating the costs of a public armory for the production of breech-loading muskets, emphasizes the interest which thoughtful Britons, both through the press and in professional and parliamentary debates, have been for some time expressing in relation to a much needed policy of general defence for England and her Colonies in the event of war. At the meeting of the Royal United Service Institution in March, Capt. J. C. R. COLOMB read a very carefully prepared paper upon the subject before an audience of many of the most distinguished and intelligent officers of the army and navy. They seem to have been greatly impressed, and gave their unanimous endorsement to the paper as the most

important and thorough exposition laid before them for years. The discussion of the questions suggested by Capt. COLOMB, which—as is the custom of the Institution—succeeded the reading of his paper, was unusually protracted and earnest, the speakers, with a single exception, joining with the lecturer in his enunciation of the instant necessity of some positive action which shall organize the resources of the Empire for Imperial exigencies. The relations of England to her colonies, so far as war trials would test them, are in fact more sentimental than practical. It is true that great reliance is to be placed upon the traditional spirit of Englishmen, as shown in the repeated offers of Canadian contributions to the Imperial army at critical periods, but it is doubtful if her colonies would add largely to England's fighting force. Under present conditions it is pretty certain their exposed and extended borders and coast lines would only aggravate the difficulties and cost of Imperial defence.

The military resources of England's great colonies, Canada, Australia, and the Cape, are created and controlled by their several Legislatures, and, with the exception of Canada, they have shown but little interest in military matters. So far from being able to successfully join battle with even inferior states, Capt. COLOMB'S statistics show that Chili, Peru, or Brazil would to-day be too powerful for the combined forces of Australia and the Cape. If any first class nation should declare war against England, there is a possibility, as one of the Institution's debaters was frank enough to suggest, that those colonies might seek safety by ignoring the mother country.

Even if the colonies do not choose to defend themselves, England for her own safety must defend them. The day may be not far hence when a war with Russia or America will force 15,000,000 of the 33,000,000 inhabitants of the United Kingdom to depend upon Canada and Australia for the food which peaceful Britain buys all over the world. In such an exigency, whatever the cost, England must preserve the security of its Imperial communications, its "food lines," and its "war lines" alike, against whatever foe. The importance of the coaling stations at and near the Cape alone outweighs any cost of guardianship to England. Had the King of Coomassie known that "a light applied by one unarmed man to a black mass at a Portuguese Island" would have intercepted a British fleet, he would have done "more to delay the advance of his enemies than the muster at home of all his hosts. Savages cannot be expected to know these things; but the English executive, Home and Colonial, will for once make a mistake if it expects the TODLEBENS or MOLTKE'S of future wars to possess—in this matter—only the military intelligence of savages."

Exhaustive in its statement and admirably constructed as an appeal to the rulers of England, this extremely interesting paper is yet imperfect in so far as it indicates no precise remedy for the difficulty presented. Simply to organize the defensive resources of England and her colonies, to harmonize and consolidate; to shape, after so many years' "drifting," a permanent policy, was the writer's purpose. The single statesmanlike suggestion developed by the debate, was that an Imperial Commission, comprising representatives of the colonies, in connection with a Board of Military and Naval Officers, should be appointed to investigate the matter, with a view to a possible ultimate federation of the United Kingdom and its dependencies.

EGYPT AND ABYSSINIA.

It now seems probable that the threatened war between Egypt and Abyssinia will be averted by the resumption of peaceful negotiations. Yet the matter must be at best problematical, since the extreme reluctance of the Khedive's government to yield the desired ports on the Red Sea, and the obstinacy which has always characterized Abyssinian monarchs, may again precipitate a war which only a short time since seemed to have been actually begun.

The controversy itself is an old one, but can be briefly recounted. About seven years ago the late Khedive, whose military ambition and greed of territorial extension resulted in the formation of a powerful military establishment, fitted out with good modern weapons from this country and England, and organized by a staff of European and American officers of experience and skill, undertook to annex what is known as the Bogos country, on the northern boundary of Abyssinia. That region was claimed by both countries. King JOHN, who had recently come to the throne, and who already regarded it as a grievance that Egypt held the coast-line between Abyssinia and the Red Sea, allowing him no commercial egress, and thus requiring his foreign trade to pass through Egyptian channels, paying duties in the process, immediately resented this new movement,

which was undertaken by a subordinate of the Khedive, the governor of Massowah, the chief Red Sea port in that neighborhood. The result was that the governor's forces were attacked by the king, and slaughtered, and part of the country reoccupied.

A somewhat stronger force was then sent, under Col. ARRANDRUP, a European officer, to invade Abyssinia. This suffered the fate of its predecessor, such of the troops as were not killed being captured or dispersed. Then a regular army was sent by transports down to Massowah, and thence inland, well equipped, provided with artillery, and with the European and American officers aiding. The advance of this army was entrapped by King JOHN and overwhelmed like its predecessors. But at this time dissensions broke out in Abyssinia itself, and two of the most powerful vassals of King JOHN rose in revolt. With this fire in the rear, he was very anxious to conclude peace, especially as the northernmost chief, on the Egyptian boundary, established himself in Egypt, and, with that as a base, made destructive raids into the king's domains.

Either by consent, or, as the Egyptians claim, by regular treaty, King JOHN abandoned for a time his pretensions to the sea coast, and matters remained quiet until the present year. Meanwhile Egypt had begun to find her troubles in a great debt incurred by her military establishment, and from other causes. The Khedive was forced out of his place by the action of the European powers, and his present successor became viceroy. At the same time the military establishment was cut down, many of the foreign staff officers given up—indeed this process of retrenchment had begun under the late Khedive—and the whole aspect of Egypt was one of peace. The country, too, had also previously somewhat exhausted its military desires in lending aid to the Sultan in his contest with the Czar.

King JOHN again saw his opportunity; and, having, as he believed, struck a peace with his unruly vassals, he proceeded to revive his old claims for a strip of the sea coast, the port of Massowah, and freedom from commercial tribute to Egypt. He also claimed that the treaty which Egypt pleaded in bar of his present movements had never been duly signed and ratified, and hence was not binding. The first endeavor of Egypt was to avert a war for which she had little stomach, and which her creditors strongly protested against. Gen. GORDON was despatched to hold a personal conference with King JOHN, and to offer him some minor ports on the Red Sea. This conference, however, resulted in nothing, and both countries prepared for war, King JOHN, it is said, having actually crossed the frontier.

At this juncture, however, his old trouble was revived. King MENALEK, his vassal, again broke out in revolt, or threatened to do so, and propositions are said to have been made to resume the negotiations. Such is the position in which affairs stand. Egypt is continuing her military preparations, but professes little doubt that peace can be secured. A Cairo despatch of January 1, which is the latest news, says that a chief who favored an aggressive policy has been recalled from the frontier by King JOHN. It is thought at Cairo that this step indicates that the King has adopted a pacific attitude.

THE MALLORY PROPELLER.

A PAPER of considerable length was read before the Royal United Service Institution of London, at its May meeting, by W. H. White, Assistant Naval Constructor, "On the Turning Power of Ships." Most favorably mentioned among the later steering and governing devices, by the author, is the invention of Col. Mallory, which has been applied to our own torpedo-boat, the *Alarm*. The writer says: "Recently a most ingenious plan for effecting the same object" (deriving steering power from the propeller), "has been patented by an American, Col. Mallory, who has devised a method for rotating the screw through a complete circle, and meanwhile keeping the main engines running continuously in one direction. A boat fitted with the Mallory propeller can be turned almost on her centre, stopped very rapidly, and kept very thoroughly under control by the action of the screw alone, no rudder being fitted. No trials on a large scale have been made, but it is clear that difficulties which can be readily surmounted in a boat, may become very formidable in a large ship with great engine power and high speed. Risks which may be run in boats and small vessels, may also become too great when applied to sea-going ships-of-war. There are mechanical difficulties connected with the Mallory propeller, if used in large vessels, to which I need not here draw attention, my object being simply to indicate the lines along which recent inventions have proceeded." A full page drawing accompanies Mr. White's remarks.

At the March meeting of the Institution Mr. Ravenhill, the eminent engineer, in a lecture upon "Improvements in Engines and Boilers," exhibited a model of the Mal-

lory invention, and remarked upon it at considerable length, conceding generally its novelty and efficiency. In the discussion which followed, the merits of the system for Thorneycroft and Yarrow torpedo-boats of great speed and small size, were affirmed, but questions similar to that of Mr. White were raised. The trial of the *Alarm*, a craft of reputable size and weight, will go far to determine the ultimate success of Col. Mallory's idea.

We take pleasure in calling attention to the extremely useful "Military and Naval Encyclopedia," compiled by Captain Thomas Wilhelm, 8th Infantry. Its value seems to us to be threefold: first, in the terseness of its items, and the generally good proportion preserved between them, in order to give each title a degree of space in ratio to its relative importance for those who are to use the book—a feature at the very foundation of a good cyclopedia, and yet rarely to be met; secondly, in the strictness with which extraneous matters have been kept out of the book, so that it is confined to the subjects expressed in its title and its sub-title; thirdly, in the bringing of such a mass of material into a very handy space—for the book is one that can be used without being cumbersome, and hence is specially suited to the Army and Navy. Indeed, in mechanical execution this last aim has been pushed to excess. For, while containing 1,380 pages, the paper, for the sake of compactness in the volume, is made a little too thin. No doubt, also, a revised edition would be more comprehensive and complete in the matters covered. But we think such a tendency is one to be guarded against—the great value of this work, as we have already said, is in getting so much that should be in a volume of this sort into a space so compact. The great tendency of a successful dictionary, guide-book, or manual of any sort, is to enlarge itself by revisions until it no longer becomes a handy volume but an incubus. As it stands, this work now comprises technical terms, brief biographies, accounts of North American Indians, battles, terms in heraldry, and geographical information, together with the articles of war in our service. We see in this little volume the possibility of a most valuable *rade mecum* for both services. Its place of publication is "Headquarters, 8th Infantry, U. S. A." Its dedication is to one of the most accomplished, experienced and valuable officers in our own or any other service—the Colonel of the 8th Inf., Bvt. Maj. Gen. August V. Kautz, "by whose suggestions, encouragement and aid," says Capt. Wilhelm, "the work was undertaken, persevered in, and completed."

ALREADY the sensational journalist has started out, and anticipating a war in Maine, has investigated the number of United States troops available in case of emergency. He finds at four posts in Maine one man and an ordnance sergeant, and at Fort Preble, Me., one battery of artillery—thirty-five men all told. We trust the one man and the ordnance sergeant may not have to take the field, otherwise the four posts, amongst which the man and the sergeant seem to be distributed, will be left without the very adequate protection to which they are accustomed. The thirty-five men *might* do some execution, if pitted against the Maine belligerents, but we incline to the opinion that their services won't be needed, or asked for. The State is amply able to take care of itself, and so far as the Army is concerned, it has not a speck of interest in the matter, except perhaps to keep as far as possible from the scene of the trouble.

In offering to all readers of the JOURNAL, and to all friends of the Army and Navy everywhere, our hearty wishes for their personal happiness and professional good fortune during the year 1880, we may also express the conviction that the New Year will witness a better state of things for the two services. We are convinced that the present Congress is awakening to the folly of its predecessors in leaving the national defences to go to ruin, under a mania of misplaced economy. We believe that the Army has touched low-water mark, and will never again be so small, or so ill-provided for as now. We believe that the needs of the Navy will ere long find sympathetic hearers, and that the ships we need will begin to be supplied as soon as our naval authorities can agree on what they want. As for our coastwise defences, the turn in the tide has already begun with them, as the pending Fortification bill shows. We congratulate our readers on the brighter prospects opened by the year 1880.

THE Laidley-Wingate controversy continues to rage. Col. Laidley has published a pamphlet and Gen. Wingate has replied with another. As the matter is now in the United States courts it is perhaps best to wait upon the decision of the Judiciary as to the question of in-

fringement of copyright. As Gen. Wingate is expert as a lawyer, as well as a rifleman, it is to be presumed that he has not lightly ventured this appeal to a legal tribunal.

A famous Latin poet says that there is no law against telling the truth with a laugh or a joke; and under the preposterous extravagances and chaotic idiocies of "Pinafore" there was a well-marked vein of satire on some efforts to tamper with the English naval establishment. In the "Pirates of Penzance," by the same authors, army foibles get a lash, in their turn. As a companion picture to the "ruler of the Queen's navy," in Pinafore, the new comic opera presents a certain Major-General of the British Army, whose education and capabilities for his post are as follows:

I know our mythic history, King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's,
I answer hard acrostics, I've a pretty taste for paradox:
I quote, in elegiacs, all the crimes of Heliogabalus,
In conies I can floor peculiarities parabolus
I can tell undoubted Raphael's from Gerard Dows and Zoffanics,
I know the croaking chorus from the "Frogs" of Aristophanes,
Then I can hum a fugue of which I've heard the music's din afore,
And which all the aces from that infernal nonsense "Pi afore."
I can write you out a washing bill in Babylonian cuneiform,
And tell you all the details of Caractacus' uniform,
In short, in matters vegetable, animal and mineral,
I am the very model of a modern major general!

It strikes us that the hit in these lines will do for this side of the water, as well as the other. Not very long ago a Board of Visitors went up to West Point, and found the education excellent—as far as it went. The mathematics, engineering, military science, tactics, and whatever was needed in the profession they found no fault with. But they wanted a wider education—more logic, rhetoric, general history, belles lettres, and exercises in writing. This sort of tendency would fritter away the time needed for professional excellence on a smattering of everything, and turn out major generals like the one in Penzance.

OUR cousins across the water entered on the New Year with much cause for rejoicing in having got very comfortably out of two bad scrapes, the one in Zululand and the other in Afghanistan. Chief Secoweni was only a little less providable than King Cetewayo, having successfully resisted for years both the British and the Boers. But he is now, like Cetewayo, a captive in Cape Town. It is true that affairs in the Transvaal look lowering, but the Boers, if they revolt, will no longer have the Zulus as allies. The escape from disaster at Cabel is still now a matter for New Year's rejoicing. With Gen. Roberts relieved from his disquieting if not dangerous situation, the British re-enter Cabel as its masters, and Mahomed Jan proposes peace.

ANOTHER veteran officer of our Army is added to the list of dead, Colonel Arthur T. Lee, who died at Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 29, 1879. Col. Lee was born in Northumberland, Pa., June 26, 1814, and was appointed 2d lieutenant, 5th U. S. Inf., Oct. 28, 1838. The next year he was transferred to the 8th Infantry, which was commanded by Col. Worth. With this regiment he served during the Florida and Seminole wars. In March, 1845, he was promoted 1st lieutenant, and during the Mexican war served with the army under Gen. Taylor. In 1848 he was made captain, and in 1861 major, 2d Infantry, and was in Texas under Gen. Twiggs at the breaking out of the Rebellion. As he remained loyal to his flag he was paroled, until regularly exchanged, which did not take place until 1863. He commanded his regiment at Gettysburg, was severely wounded, and was brevetted lieutenant-colonel for gallant and meritorious service in that engagement, and in January, 1865, was retired "for wounds received in the line of duty." In 1867 he was assigned as commandant of the Soldiers' Home, Washington. During the latter portion of his life he was a resident at Rochester, passing his summer at Shelter Island, L. I. He was an artist and a poet, as well as a true soldier, a gentleman of high personal character and the most refined sensibility. He will be most sincerely regretted, and long remembered by his friends.

A CORRESPONDENT at Fort Clark, Texas, informs us that Capt. James F. Randlett, 8th Cavalry, was presented Dec. 20 with a very fine cavalry sabre by his company (D), in acknowledgment of his kindly interest always manifested in their welfare and his devotion to them. The sabre was manufactured by Horstman Bros. & Co., of Philadelphia, was an excellent piece of workmanship, and was tendered to him on behalf of the company by 1st Sergeant Gus W. Fahlbusch, who expressed in a few words the hope that the captain would never forget the attachment of the company to him, and their hope for his preservation of health to wear it for many years to come. Capt. Randlett was greatly surprised and moved by this mark of affection from his men, and thanked them in a few appropriate words.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GEN. DUNN has received from Mary McHenry, Philadelphia, a pane of glass upon which J. Wilkes Booth had, with a diamond, scratched these words:

Abe Lincoln,
Departed this
Life Aug. 13th, 1864,
By the effects of
Poison.

The glass was taken from the window of the McHenry House, Meadville, Penn., where Booth registered in August 1864. "It is believed that Booth must have known of some

attempt premeditated, if not actually made, to poison Mr. Lincoln August 13, 1864, and supposed that it had been successful."

SECRETARY THOMPSON directed the officers of the Navy and Marine Corps to assemble at the Navy Department at 11.30 o'clock A. M. New Year's Day in full dress uniform for occasions of special ceremony, and the officers of the Army in Washington, by order of General Sherman, also assembled at the Adjutant-General's Office to pay their respects to the President.

M. DE LESSEPS is received with great enthusiasm everywhere on the Isthmus. He declares that he has the money, and at the end of the six months required for the verification of his surveys will commence work on the canal.

COL. HENRY W. JAMES, U. S. Army, is at the Monisett House, Norfolk.

CAPTAIN F. H. BAKER, U. S. N., was reported at the point of death at St. Vincent's Hospital, Norfolk, last Wednesday.

ASSISTANT ENGINEER GEORGE S. WILLIS, of the Navy, who recently tendered his resignation to the Secretary of the Navy, to take effect Dec. 30, has been allowed to withdraw it.

GEN. M. C. MEIGS, Q. M. General, has gone on a tour of inspection of the posts in the South and Southwest, to be gone some months. He is accompanied by his daughter.

THE comedy of "Our Boys" was presented at the Naval Academy New Year's Eve by the Cadet Dramatic Association, before a large audience.

MASTER MILTON K. SCHWENK, U. S. N., was reported in Baltimore, Dec. 31.

MRS. WM. F. BARRY.—The friends of the late Gen. Wm. F. Barry had scarcely recovered from the shock caused by his death when we are informed of the death of Mrs. Barry, which occurred at Buffalo, N. Y., last week.

Mrs. Katharine W. Barry was the daughter of the late James McKnight, who went to Buffalo from Massachusetts something more than fifty years since. When what was called the "Patriot war" broke out on the Canada frontier forty years since, the 2d Artillery was ordered to Buffalo. General Barry was then a young lieutenant who had recently joined his regiment, and Miss Kate McKnight had just left school. There was a splendid lot of fellows in the 2d Artillery. The officers of the regiment from Colonel Bankhead down were feasted and fêted, and they probably spent the happiest days of their lives in Buffalo. It was at that time that Lieut. Barry met Miss McKnight, who was an exceedingly pretty and lovely girl, and after a short courtship they were married in the little wooden Episcopal Church that stood where St. Paul's Cathedral now stands. It was on a mellow evening, nearly forty years ago—in 1840—that the bridal party walked in to the little church where the good Dr. Shelton was ready to receive them, and to perform the ceremony. Nearly all of the officers of the regiment were present.

There was the Colonel, and Duncan, and Luther, and Roland, and Shackelford, and Sedgwick, and Blair, and Bob Allen, and Lucius Allen, and Daniels, and Chapman, and many others of the regiment, all of whom I now see before me, just as they looked as they proceeded in full uniform up the aisle, but who, alas! are now nearly all dead. From that evening of the wedding in the little chapel, when I slipped in with the other boys to see the wonderful sight, until the beginning of the Mexican war, I never saw many of the officers of the 2d Artillery. But on the morning of Molino del Rey, when they brought in the mortally wounded Armstrong and Daniels, and a few days afterwards when Shackelford was brought into the hospital in the City of Mexico where I was lying, Barry's wedding came before me, and I recollected so well how differently they had looked as they stood around the altar to hear pretty Kate McKnight take her marriage vows.

And the same good old Doctor Shelton, who performed the marriage ceremony nearly forty years ago, has within a few weeks, and upon the same spot, officiated at the funeral ceremonies of both General and Mrs. Barry. Two of Mrs. Barry's pall-bearers, the Hon. Asher P. Nichols and Mr. Wm. B. Peck, were, we believe, at her wedding, and followed her remains, as they had that of her husband, to the beautiful Forest Lawn Cemetery—a spot so beautiful that one is almost reconciled to death in the thought of sleeping there.

Mrs. Barry had many sincere friends, who are left to mourn for her. She is said to have died of typhoid pneumonia, but Miss Elizabeth Barry, in writing to us of her mother's death, says: "My dear mother never recovered from the shock of my father's death, and died literally of a broken heart."

Mrs. Barry leaves three daughters, Mrs. Howe, widow of Lieut. Howe of the artillery, whose sad death during the Modoc war is still fresh in our memories, Mrs. McNutt, wife of Lieut. McNutt of the Ordnance Corps, and Miss Elizabeth Barry. Two brothers, Messrs. Fredrick and Theodore McKnight, are still residents of Buffalo. The bereaved family may rest assured that they have the heartfelt sympathy of the Army officers and their families. EBBITT.

A DESPATCH from San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 23, says: Regarding the move of Texas Congressmen to have Forts Sill, Stanton, and other posts and Indian reservations transferred to Gen. Ord's Department, the General says he don't covet the additional work which would be entailed. He thinks, however, that either the Indian hunting ground in Texas should be transferred to Gen. Pope's Department or the plan in contemplation carried out. As it is, the Indians come to Texas, not to hunt, but to steal and rob, and Gen. Ord's troops cannot follow them nor secure their punishment. Gen. Ord thinks the matter should have been attended to long ago.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

MOBILE CANNON.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Now that the world is seeking a 30-pounder field piece of passable mobility, may it not be well to inquire why so many pounds avoirdupois are given to a carriage for a piece that is almost ready to transport itself? The simplest suggestions of the accomplished carriage constructor would be useful here, and the most radical hints of iconoclastic inventors, such as Ericsson, will not be misplaced.

The query is submitted to the civilized world, "Can a six or eight-horse team run with an efficient 30-pounder cannon?" We all say yes! but we wait to see it done. Put wheels on the trunnions and let her rip! and let us join all the little gods in laughter as uproarious as the innumerable waters over this last phantasm from

OLD GRIMES.

MARRIED MEN IN THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Now that Congress has assembled can there not be some champion found, willing to espouse the cause of that greatly wronged portion of the Army, "the married men."

I believe, and am willing to admit, that it will increase the efficiency of the Army to dispense with company laundresses; but having once allowed them, is it now right or fair to turn a veteran who has grown gray in the service of his country adrift in the evening of his days to seek a livelihood amid the pursuits of civil life; something he is as ignorant of as the majority of the inhabitants of this country are of the Chinese language.

Take my own case for instance (by no means one among the worst). At the expiration of my present term of service, I will find myself discharged from the Army at the age of thirty-five; eighteen years of my life will have been spent as a soldier; I have been by law and the consent of my company commander allowed to marry in the Army, and now, having raised a family therein, am told I must turn to the ranks of civil life to obtain support for them. During the time I have been a soldier I have participated in thirteen general engagements in the war of 1861-5, and I can prove by officers now in the Service, that in all my soldiering I have not been through any act of my own absent from my duty ten days altogether. It is true the country has always given me everything promised for my services, but, Sir, I ask you, would any other government in the world, or would any other branch of the public business of this one, discharge an old servant, after long and faithful service, simply for the crime of being married?

Of course I know (for it is so published in orders) that if I desire to do so I can still remain in the Army, "but how?" why by virtually abandoning my family to the cold charity of the world.

Would it be too much to ask, that as our term of service expires we be pensioned off on full pay and allowances, in return for which we could be put drilling militia companies, or such other duty as we might be found capable of performing?

CAMP ON WHITE RIVER, COLO., Dec. 15, 1879.

THE ARMY REGISTER.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: As every officer has an Army Register, and refers to it oftener than to any other work, civil or military, the Register could be made to exert a powerful and beneficial influence upon the Army. The Register for 1879 is a step in the right direction, but it does not go far enough.

The record of each officer should, in addition to the information now given, state the date of his birth, the names of the battles, actions and engagements, in which he has taken part, the command he held, or special duty he performed in each action. If wounded it should be mentioned.

Brief mention should be made of any official compliments he has received from Congress, Army or Department commanders, State or foreign authorities, total length of field service (in months) as an officer up to the date of register; total length of garrison service up to date; total time on fanny duty and leave; any sentence received from General Court-martial.

The Army Register should also contain a list of such enlisted men as have received certificates of merit, or medals for gallantry in action; also, their record so far as date and place of birth, date and place of enlistment, name and date of action for which the medal was received. When a soldier so distinguished dies or leaves the service his name should be mentioned in the list of casualties and then dropped from the Register.

Whether the additions proposed can be placed in the Army Register by the order of the Secretary of War, or would require an act of Congress, I do not know. To save delay in issuing Registers the additions can be made gradually. The 1880 Register could give date of birth in addition to the record in the 1879 Register. The 1881 Register could give full records of general and field officers. The 1882 full records of all officers. After that the Register would be largely made up of repetitions of the previous Register.

Printed blanks can be issued for each officer on the active list to fill up and forward (direct to the Adjutant General) on the 31st of December of each year, stating number of days' field service during the year, actions if any, special duty in any action, wounded or not, compliments, if any; number of days' garrison duty, number of days on fanny duty or leave; sentence of Court-martial, if any.

The record in the previous Register changed to conform to the officers' yearly report would be the record for each new Register. Staff officers should be numbered in their grade and corps as line officers are (in lineal list).

CAVALRY.

INFANTRY UNIFORM—"BUFF."

LINING OF MEN'S CAPES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: In calling attention in my article of Nov. 8 to what appeared to me the incongruities and want of general artistic excellence in the uniform of our infantry, it formed no part of my design to enter upon the field of suggestion, or to assume to say what might or might not be, in all regards, better than that which we had. This remains for those more learned and distinguished parties, who, when a Board is to be detailed, spring forward, like the sixteen Hoosiers of the story, ready always to take "sugar in their'n." Boards rarely reach down to the depths at which the undersigned—though far from unhappily—finds himself.

One suggestion, however, it is here to be noted, did, out of the fullness of the subject, seem to "whistle itself" into the text submitted for your columns—to wit, the suggestion for a facing of buff for the infantry, in lieu of the complication of shades, etc., now borne about. This single, serviceable, reliable color, as named, would give, if nothing else, uniformity of facings. That this suggestion, moreover, should have been met with so earnest an approval as that of your correspondent of "—th Rifles," is no less than gratifying—showing that, possibly, the seed sown may in its time come to good.

Quitting, however, this particular portion of the subject in hand, I come to the question propounded for my answering, by said "—th Rifles," who furthermore subscribes himself as of the "Black Leg" and "White Feather Corps."

The cape of an overcoat being ordered to be lined with flannel, "the color of the facings of the corps"—"to which," exclaims this enthusiast after knowledge, "am I to give precedence, the white of my head, the sky-blue on my shoulder, or the black of my legs?" "Wherewith, in short, for a color, shall I line the capes of my men—these capes being sky-blue?" The dilemma appears at first a little close, but it is one, perhaps, out of which the earnest seer may be led in safety.

White, being "disapproved," except as to the plume for infantry, is out of the count. Sky-blue occurs as a facing where the ground is of a darker tint, as regards the coat, and the reverse, as relates to the darker blue, where the field is of our sweet cerulean—vide the trousers—the stripe whereof, from its inevitable effect upon the eye, is by no means inaptly designated by your "Rifle" correspondent as "black."

Orders, then, are orders; and let the member of the "B. L. and W. F. C." proceed to line the capes of his men with the deeper hue in question. It will be sombre in the combination—so to speak, perhaps, funereal. But what, at the best, is the infantry uniform, as at present or heretofore under discussion? Would it be too much to assume that the elegant and perceptive Mr. Brown, Sexton of Grace Church, might characterize the whole as rather an unstylish effort at "half-mourning in blue?"

There remains, though, yet one comfort, in the contingency in hand, to the gallant rank and file under "—th Rifles." For in case any one of these should, in an unguarded moment, find himself promoted to a commission, he would have only to turn his cape, dark side out, and strut in full regulation beside his fellows. An economy at least of a portion of his outfit paternally reserved to him, in virtue of orders to line "according to facings of corps."

I would prolong this article, Mr. Editor, in the consideration of other points and matters submitted or suggested by the correspondent I thus reply to. I am able, however, to call to mind that space, in columns of the value of your own, is not to be too selfishly availed of, even under favor of the freest discussions.

A. T.

WAS IT AN IRONCLAD PROPOSED IN 1634?

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: I find the following in "Winthrop's Journal," edition of 1790, p. 62:

"March 4, 1634.—Some new comers offered to give liberally towards the building of a galley for the defence of the Bay (Massachusetts), and upon consultation with divers, experienced seamen, and others, it was thought fitter for our condition to build a vessel 40 feet in length and 21 in breadth, to be cannon proof, and the upper deck musket proof, to have one sail, and to carry whole culverin and other smaller pieces, eight in all. It was found so chargeable and so long time ere it could be finished that it was abandoned."

Note the width of this "cannon proof vessel," more than half her length—probably due to her thick timbered sides. Her principal gun a culverin—according to Sir Wm. Monson—had a bore of 5½ inches, and weighed 4,500 lbs. (?) The shot for it weighed 17½ lbs., and 12 pounds of powder was used for a charge. Its point blank range was 200 paces and its random range 2,500 paces. Sir Wm. Monson, however, remarks, "yet respect must be had to the goodness or badness of powder, as, namely, serpentine powder, which is weak, and will not keep at sea; the great and gross powder is for ordnance; fine corned powder is in goodness according to the saltpetre; and for the shot it must be quarter of an inch less than the bore of the piece."

In 1645 a ship of some size was built at Cambridge, Mass., and received an armament of 14 guns and sailed with a crew of thirty men for the Canary Islands. She fell in with a Barbary rover of 30 guns and seventy men, and engaged her for a whole day, and got rather worsted, but the rover receiving serious injury to her rudder, this Mass. ship managed to escape. This was, so far as is

known, the first regular naval combat in which an American built vessel was ever engaged.

P.

A PLEA FOR EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: In the last number of your paper, I notice that General McCook in his report of Post-Schools for October, 1879, complains of the difficulty of obtaining teachers under the present system, and recommends that Post-School teachers be given the rank and pay of Commissary Sergeants. It will undoubtedly be gratifying to all interested in the matter of education in the Army, that efforts are put forth to rescue the Post-School teacher from the anomalous position he now occupies, in which he is supposed to possess intelligence and cultivation, while in too many instances they are slowly, but effectually, crushed out of him; a position in which he is at the same time educator and menial. While the subject is under consideration, I offer the following suggestions:

G. O. No. 24, 1878, provides that only the English branches shall all be taught. It is a well-known fact that the greater part of our Army is stationed at posts where it is impossible for officers to give their children the higher education necessary to free movement in that society to which their own position will give them access. Would it not be an act of justice to those officers on the one hand, and to the teacher who is capable of supplying that want, on the other, that some provision be made for such cases? Shall the officer, in addition to his banishment from society and civilization, be deprived of superior educational advantages for his children when they are within his reach? Or shall the teacher instruct those children in languages, mathematics and other higher branches, yet receive no compensation for such additional work? Would any one think, in civil life, of placing the assistant who teaches the common school branches, upon a pecuniary level with him who teaches more advanced pupils in the higher branches? That those branches are taught at many posts to the satisfaction of those interested, may be seen from the monthly reports at those posts. It may be urged that officers desiring such education for their children should pay for it. This, again, would do neither the officer nor the teacher justice. The former is certainly entitled to the best efforts and benefit of the full knowledge of an enlisted teacher. The latter, if asked or ordered to teach the higher branches without compensation, would, no doubt, in most instances do so cheerfully and with pleasure; yet, though he felt himself ever so much oppressed and aggrieved by such an order, it would hardly be prudent for him to decline and call attention to the General Order referring to the subject.

If, therefore, teachers of the English branches are to receive their just dues by being given the rank and pay of Commissary Sergeants, let at the same time some provision be made, in the shape of extra duty pay or otherwise, for those who do extra work. The intelligent man whom circumstances force to enlist, will naturally look about him in the Army for the best field for what education he may possess; and finding under the present system no inducements of rank or emolument in the position of teacher, it is but natural that he should regard that position only as a stepping-stone, to be abandoned the moment he sees an opportunity to apply for and eventually obtain an appointment on the non-commissioned staff, or a detail on General-Service, where he is better paid.

The objection may be raised that in a "fighting army," as ours must be as long as we have an extensive frontier to protect, not much attention can be given to education. If the soil be so barren that the tree of knowledge cannot take root in it and prosper, then let the latter be cast out altogether. But if it do prosper and bear abundant fruit, then let the good and faithful servant who spends his best years and energies in planting and nursing it, receive his reward and recognition.

M. D.

"BARBED-WIRE" FOR ENTANGLEMENTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Field fortifications, particularly those that can be hastily thrown up, play such an important part in the fighting of to-day with the destructive fire of breech loaders, that every means must be adopted to render these works secure from surprise and assault.

There are many well known accessory or secondary means of defence, each of which requires considerable time to construct. One of the best of all obstacles to the advance of the enemy is a "wire entanglement;" the wire for this should be what is known as "barbed wire," which is now extensively used in fencing.

A position that is open to the approach of infantry should have the "barbed-wire" entanglement placed at about point blank range of the arms that the defenders are using, say 150 to 200 yards from where the defenders are; at this distance the fire would be most effective. To construct the entanglement, stout stakes should be driven in quincunx order about five to ten feet apart, according to the turf, and projecting about twelve inches out of the ground—there should be from three to five rows; the "barbed-wire" should then be interlaced with these stakes near the tops, and there fastened; if cavalry can charge the position, then about three rows should be at a height of 2½ to three feet. Much of the charging of infantry is now done at night, in open order, like the French two rank formation, and the best body of troops coming upon a "barbed-wire" obstacle, would be thrown into the greatest confusion; the men would fall against the barbed points, they would be cut by them, and if firing were going on, as would be most certain, these men would find themselves bleeding and wounded, and not knowing how seriously, would naturally seek the rear, thus demoralizing their companions, and weakening the assaulting line. A cavalry column would be thrown into still greater confusion; the horses would be wounded, would rear and plunge,

and becoming entangled, would throw their riders also upon the barbed point.

An obstacle of this kind could be stretched in a few minutes by a patrol across roads that the enemy was known to be advancing over. In this case there should be several sets of rows about 50 yards apart; this would most effectually prevent night surprises, would protect outposts and small detachments, small villages and other points where troops are weak, as well as stronger works. The English troops felt the need of just such an obstacle in Zululand; the Russians in their last great war, and at present feel it in their Asiatic campaigns.

"Barbed-wire" is an American invention; it comes wound on large drums, which can easily be slung on an axle, and drawn like a two wheel hose-carriage; it can be used in a thousand ways, can be easily set, or taken up and transported. I strongly recommend its trial to the different governments who are now carrying on campaigns, particularly against hordes of savages; and also for use in the war between Chili and Peru. I should also like to see it used in our own Indian campaigns; it would open the eyes of some of our red brothers.

THOS. M. WOODRUFF,
1st Lieut. 5th Infantry.

THE GAME OF STRATEGOS.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Military Service Institution was held at Governor's Island, Monday, December 29, for the purpose of hearing Lieutenant C. A. L. Totten, 4th Artillery, explain the new American war game "Strategos." Lieutenant Totten, whose station is on the Pacific Coast, has come East purposely to afford an opportunity to witness the plan of this game, although, as he mentioned in his lecture, the time allotted to him only suffices for a brief outline of the game. The lecture was delivered in a large room of the Headquarters building on Governor's Island, which permitted the numerous charts, pieces, maps, etc., used in the game to be conspicuously displayed. Lieut. Totten's explanations, both in words and by practical illustration on the tables, were exceedingly interesting, and although necessarily brief, were sufficiently *in extenso* to impress his hearers with the importance of a thorough understanding of the game.

It is claimed that it is far more comprehensive than the German Kriegsspiel, or its English version, Aldershot. Unlike these games, which have little in common with the ordinary soldier and were designed for the exclusive use of the best-informed members of the army, the American game of war is intended to interest those of every grade in the profession of arms, while in the most advanced application it embodies all the more valuable features of the foreign games, introducing at the same time very many noticeable improvements upon both of them.

Lieut. Totten began his address by defining the word "strategos," which he said was derived from the Greek words *stratos*, an army, and *ago*, to lead, which was also the title of an Athenian General officer. In its secondary meaning, Strategos was a council of ten Athenians annually chosen by vote, for the purpose of conducting the Grecian War Department at home, as a council or home board of war. From this class were derived some of the modern military terms, such as strategy. The word strategy had been defined by Baron Jomini as "the art of making war upon the map," and the game "strategos" was presented as a means of familiarizing the student with the art of making war, by giving him the semblance of an army by means of maps. Lieut. Totten thought the game of "strategos" was more comprehensive than the German game of "Kriegsspiel," or the English version of "Aldershot," both of which were famous games among foreign soldiers. These foreign games were only designed for the use of the most advanced members of the military profession, and had little in common with the ordinary soldier or the private military student. The American game, however, possessed an absorbing interest for every grade in the Army, while in its most advanced application it embodied all the important features of the foreign games, besides introducing many noticeable improvements in both of them. Chess, which was played 600 years B. C., was in reality only a game of battle, in which the combined forces of various arms were brought into action, and the game of draughts had existed for centuries before the advent of chess. In the time of Louis XV. two distinct games were played in military circles, but they did not apparently bear any resemblance to the modern war games, so that "Kriegsspiel" might be said to be the father of the modern games of war. This game had been played in the Prussian army for half a century, and in 1824 it attracted the attention of the officers of the English army.

Having proceeded thus far by way of introduction, Lieut. Totten began an explanation of the game, commencing with the tactical stage, which he said provided all the requirements of "dummy" instruction, and from the simple squad or detachments, up through the companies, batteries, squadrons, battalions, and the army corps. Considered as a tactical formation, it afforded ready means of practical and unlimited elucidation never before offered to the military profession. The pieces used were small oblong and circular pieces of slate, of red and blue distinctive colors, on which could be written the number or name of the object, thus giving the officers bars or the non-commissioned officers chevrons, where a large number of pieces was to be used for the purpose of illustrating complicated movements in the schools of the company or the battalion. Larger pieces were shown for illustrating columns of fours, platoons, and company front. Then there were diagrams representing movements laid down in the various editions of tactics used from the year 1622 to Upton's latest revision of the tactics. On the opposite side of the blocks were topographical features, representing mountains, rivers, and other features of the country. These diagrams and pieces were adapted to the illustration of every text-book and authority, such as Jomini, Hamley, Wolseley, Halleck, Dufour, Mahan, etc. By the use of the game there would be no difficulty in representing the various ancient and modern armies, and accurately delineating their multifarious movements. Battles and campaigns could be analyzed with its assistance, and followed step by step and detail by detail, in a manner which it would be utterly impossible to realize even with the most extensive system of maps and diagrams.

From this general description the speaker turned to the "battle" game, which was separately displayed on a table previously alluded to. The manipulators of the opposing armies were separated by a white curtain extending across the table. This game, he said, was a compromise between a form of amusement and a study. Its rules conspired toward

concentration and arrangement of the men, rather than movements of offense and defence. A good way to make the game useful was for two players on opposite sides to take a well-known battle and arrange their respective armies in conformity to the history. From that point let each man move his army as far as the movements are narrated in history, and then let each commander act for himself.

The advanced game was next described by the lecturer. He advocated the use of the plan of Paris undulating surface, yet where this was not easily to be obtained, a surface might be sketched on the slatted board. "For the first time," the Lieutenant said, "we come in contact with the game of 'Kriegsspiel.'" In this branch all arbitrary assignments of values and moves were, of course, entirely out of the question and improper. The whole game was required to base itself upon actualities, and the result of careful investigations and tabulated statistics of experience of former battles and campaigns. Everything in such a game must be subjected to the most searching military scrutiny, and nothing could be allowed upon the board which did not conform to the very best military information possessed and attainable. The progress of the game is noted in actual time, such as minutes, hours, days and months, instead of by the mere movement of the pieces. To keep track of the game as thus played, a board similar to a cribbage-board was used, the columns of figures being headed "minutes," "hours," "days," and "months." He considered this an improvement on "Kriegsspiel," where everything was done by moves, as for instance, a bridge is built in "four moves," while in "strategos" it is constructed in ten minutes. In the latter game, too, the distances were all given in tables of yards and paces. The speaker next produced a series of tabulated forms of casualty, marches, distances, etc., and the results of casting "a single die," in "hand-to-hand" conflicts. The chances of success and liabilities to loss were set forth under the spots on a die, from the ace to five spots, while in other similar columns were shown the "results of victory" and the "consequences of defeat."

The lecture was listened to with much interest by the large number of officers present, and at its conclusion a vote of thanks was passed to Lieut. Totten for his admirable exposition. Major-General Hancock presided, and amongst those present were noticed Generals Fry, Cullum, McKeever, Crittenden, Perry, Clarke, Rodenbough, Brown, Abbott, Doubleday, Colonels Litchfield, Langdon, Bird, Nugent and Mitchell, Majors Sanger, Wharton, Andruss and Dickinson, Surgeons Janeway, Middleton and Heger, Captains Ward, Snyder and Sanno, Lieutenants Potts, Pratt, Hubbell, Hoskins, Griffin, McNeill, and many others. Colonel Ryder and Major Wetmore, of the National Guard, were also present. Many ladies also attended, and evinced as much interest in the proceedings as their martial friends, if not more.

The occasion was one of unusual interest to the Service, and will do much to stir up a desire to thoroughly learn the game, and consequently will have a marked effect on the knowledge by our officers of their profession.

MILITARY INVENTIONS.

The following patents for military inventions have recently been granted:

To Myron Coloney, of St. Louis, for a projectile torpedo. The shell is charged with an explosive compound contained in balls of elastic material arranged in tiers separated by disks of elastic material. One or more flotation-chambers and one or more zones of magnets, with their poles presented outward, are attached to the shell. A time firing apparatus is inclosed within the shell.

To James H. McClean, of St. Louis, for a marine torpedo. To F. W. Tiesing, of New Haven, Conn., for a magazine fire arm. The carrier is in its elevated position when the breech is closed. It is depressed during the first part of the rearward movement of the breech block in opening the breech, and is elevated to present the cartridge in rear of the barrel during the first part of the forward movement to close the breech. The cartridge in its escape from the magazine is in contact with a downward projection on the breech block and follows the movement of the latter.

To Henry Hartman, of Fort Douglas, Utah, for a carbine holder.

To B. F. Joslyn, Worcester, Mass., for a magazine fire arm. The movement of the bolt reciprocates two sliding plates provided with inclined slots, into which project studs on the sides of the carrier block, which block is placed between said plates. The backward-and-forward movement of the plates imparts vertically-reciprocating movement to the carrier.

MILITARY TITLES.—Mr. Richard Grant White informs us, in the *New York Times*, that the earliest use of the word *colonel* in literature is in Thomas Dekker's comedy, "The Shoemakers' Holiday," written in 1599, and published in 1600, *colonel* being the earlier form. In 1633 the word was pronounced *col-o-nel*, then it became *colonel*, and *curnel* and *cunel* followed. "Our great-grandfathers said *colonel*, our grandfathers *curnel*, as we do; but long ago slovenly and rustic speakers said *cunel*," "Lieutenant," says Mr. White, "was, however, the general spelling even in the olden time; *lieutenant* the rare phonographic exception; and for the last 300 years *lieutenant* has been absolute in spelling, and *lieutenant* as absolute in pronunciation. The pronunciation *lootenant* is not only an Americanism, but one of very late origin. *Lieutenant* came into the English language from the French, and as it came with the sound of *u*, its obtaining that of *f* is worthy of remark. It came about, it seems to me, in this way: In old writing, *u* and *v* were interchanged, and this led to the pronunciation of *lie-tenant* as *lee-tenant*, which became *lie-tenant*, and finally *lie-tenant*." Major was formerly pronounced *mayor*. "We even find the word so written, as, for example, the following passage in the diary of Sir Henry Slingsby, a Royalist commander in the Great Rebellion: 'My regiment was left in Stampport Bridge by order from the *Mayor* General, and to receive further orders from *Collonell* Thromerton,' etc. (A. D. 1642. Page 93. Edition 1836.)"

The last *Scientific American* states that a conversation was recently carried on by Mr. Robert A. Packer, Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at North Bend, Nebraska, and his wife at Sayre, Pa., and his brother and friends at Mauch Chunk, Pa., through the medium of the telegraph wires and an Edison telephone. The distance was about two thousand miles, and every whisper was audible.

THE STATE TROOPS.

CAMPS OF INSTRUCTION.

THE beneficial effects of the establishment of the Artillery Camp of Instruction at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. harbor, during October last, has turned the thoughts of many National Guard officers toward a progressive system of education for both the cavalry and infantry of the State forces. As shown by the report of Lieut.-Col. McEwen, the commandant of the late camp, the knowledge of both officers and men of the artillery of New York State at the outset was purely theoretical. They understood the manual after a fashion, but when placed face to face with the practical working of the piece they were woefully wanting; while of the science of projectiles they were completely ignorant. The week spent in camp, with the lectures so kindly delivered by the officers of the 3d U. S. Artillery, opened the eyes of the State batteries to their utter want of practical knowledge both of the piece and its ammunition, and since their return to their several localities classes of instruction have been formed, officers are studying hard, and the men have been taught to aim at a higher proficiency than the mere automatic routine of the drill by numbers and the parrot recitation of the nomenclature of the piece. The great misfortune of the State artillery—most of them being light batteries—is the want of proper horses; but until the States remedy the evil the lectures and practice in heavy ordnance, with drills in the complete science of gunnery, will enable the men to, at the proper time, fill the places designed for them in the State forces.

The very same objection, only to a much greater extent, exists in the perfect education of militia cavalry. Men are not taught to ride in a month, even with the very best of trained horses; what then can be expected from those who mount but say three or four times in the year, and then on beasts who become frightened at the rumbling of a cannon or the blast of a bugle? Militia cavalry has been a sad failure, and although in a few, indeed a very few, instances individual troops or squadrons have made a fair showing on parade, they have been considered as a failure when active duty is concerned. Trained horses are a necessity, and without them cavalry will be of very little use.

The infantry, however, labor under none of these disadvantages; they are provided with serviceable weapons and accoutrements, have the most correct system of tactics, and only need the proper instruction as to the method of studying the books and imparting the information so acquired to the men over which they are placed in command. As with the batteries, the general knowledge of the infantry officers would, on a test, be found simply theoretical, not from any lack of enthusiasm in the service, but from a want of system or method in practically illustrating the information learned from the books. The writer has seen officers who could repeat the Tactics word for word, and who would argue by the hour on this or that small point, but who, when placed at the blackboard and required to illustrate the movements they had repeated with so much volubility, or when on drill are given a command out of the ordinary A B C, are completely bewildered, and, having made the first mistake, pile blunder upon blunder to their own discomfort and the disgust of their men. Now what can be the cause of such an exhibition? The officer is well up in the Tactics—theoretically—can give all the necessary commands, and has an attentive and obedient company. Simply that he has studied the book, but does not practically understand the movements or the reason for the many changes required during battalion drills. Can this state of affairs be remedied, and can officers of the militia be educated to the standard required from men into whose hands may be entrusted the lives of their subordinates and of the citizens generally? Most certainly! By adding to their theories thorough practical illustrations of the movements, with lectures on the science of war by capable instructors.

How can this be accomplished, scattered as the troops are throughout the State? Again, simply by organizing a "camp of instruction" on the plan of that used in the artillery, only substituting the officers for the details of the batteries, and selecting from the commanding officers of the State the best and most capable instructors. Make it a State camp, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, pay the officers for their time, and insist on a most thorough course of examination at the close, conferring degrees of merit according to the grade of examination, and if need be, cancelling the commissions of those found wanting. This latter may at the start seem a harsh proceeding, but the grade might be made light in the first year, with an increase in each succeeding examination.

Say for example the officers of the 3d, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Divisions were ordered into camps of instructions, and such officers as Generals Shaler, Jourdan, Molineux, Ward and Varian, Colonels Clark, Cruger, Porter, Scott, Ryder, Brownell, Ansten and many others of the 1st and 2d Divisions, with Adjutants Bacon, Murphy, Harding, Frothingham, Treat and others, the former to instruct in tactics and manoeuvre, and the latter to teach executive work, the keeping of books and papers, and the proper method of making and transmitting reports and returns. We answer for it, that after two weeks in camp, the benefit to these divisions would be great; and when, added to the already mentioned instruction, the attendance of U. S. Army officers from the different posts in the State, for the purpose of lectures and inspection, would be secured, what must be the result on the morale of the troops of the State of New York! As has been proved, the Army officers are only too willing to aid and assist in the instruction of the militia, and if these camps are instituted, Governor Cornell will find the regular officers prompt to volunteer their services. The cleverness of the 3d U. S. Artillery would be repeated at every post in the State of New York. If, as is now claimed, New York has the best militia in the United States, how much better would it be after one or two years of this practical work?

True, the proposed plan would cost considerable money, but it would end in giving the State a force ready at all times to quell insurrection or riot at home, and furnish the General Government with troops to be relied on in any case of sudden emergency. We trust Adjutant-General Townsend will continue the good work inaugurated by Adjutant-General Woodward.

The end will justify the means.

THE UNIFORM FUND S. N. Y.—Gen. John B. Woodward, Adjutant-General S. N. Y., has made the awards for the uniform and equipment fund of the several organizations of the State forces for the year ending December 1, 1879. These returns have been most carefully checked and compared, and

each organization has received exactly what it is entitled to, \$8 per man for those who have performed seven days duty in the year, four of which shall have been on the occasion of regimental or battalion parades, and three by company. A number of the returns were forwarded to General Headquarters some time after they were due, and the figures have not as yet been checked nor the awards made. The following are the amounts received thus far: 5th regiment, 461 men, \$3,688; 8th, 341, \$2,728; 10th, 570, \$4,560; 11th, 576, 4,608; 13th, 335, \$2,680; 13th, 539, \$4,312; 14th, 485, \$3,880; 15th, 225, \$1,800; 17th, 272, \$2,176; 23d, 644, \$5,152; 25th, 363, \$2,904; 26th, 254, \$2,032; 32d, 440, \$3,520; 35th, 126, \$1,008; 47th, 400, \$3,200; 48th, 300, \$2,400; 49th, 234, \$1,872; 51st, 121, \$968; 54th, 391, \$3,128; 65th, 296, \$2,368; 71st, 379, \$3,032; 74th, 329, \$2,632; 3d Cavalry, 289, \$2,312; Troops A, \$352; D, \$544; F, \$312; G, \$444; H, \$120; I, \$320; M, \$378; Batteries A and I, \$848; B, \$744; E, \$416; G, \$504; H, \$464; K, \$568; L, \$552; M, \$600; N, \$312. Separate Co. Infantry—1st, \$483; 2d, \$208; 3d, \$565; 4th, \$480; 5th, \$43; 7th, \$672; 14th, \$643; 17th, \$256; 18th, \$416; 19th, \$320; 23d, \$536; 24th, \$406; 25th, \$536; 26th, \$464.

THIRTEEN NEW YORK, BROOKLYN.—During the Austen-Cochran trouble in the 13th Regiment last year, the JOURNAL stated that "it was a pretty quarrel as it stands," declining to take sides with either contestant, and preferring to await the action of the court-martial appointed to decide the merits of the case. The charges were tried, adjudicated, and Capt. Cochen was dismissed from the service of the State. Appeal after appeal was made, the judge-advocate general finally deciding that the sentence of the court was correct. The civil courts were then appealed to, without help to the captain and his place was filled for the good of the regiment and Service. At the very last moment, however, it appears that Governor Robinson has thrown aside the decision of his judge-advocate general, and rules that the court was illegally constituted and the sentence not in accord with the evidence. On these accounts the findings are declared null and void, and Capt. Cochen is reinstated. The personal quarrel, so much talked about in this case, is wrong. As private citizens, Col. Austen and Capt. Cochen may wrangle to their hearts' content; but as officers of the National Guard, when charges have been preferred, a court appointed, the case adjudicated, and appeal after appeal thrown out, it seems poor policy indeed to reopen the subject, reinstate an officer whose place has been filled for months, and thus throw into chaos a hard-working company of the State troops. Either or both, colonel or captain, may be right or wrong, but when a court appointed to hear and decide on the merits of a case has announced its decision, and after appeal the decision is pronounced correct by the judge-advocate general of the State forces, and on the decision the vacant place is filled in the interest of the Service, it seems bad indeed in the very last days of a retiring administration to throw over all previous decisions, and assign the officer originally found guilty to duty. If there had been a doubt in the mind of the governor or his chief-of-staff as to the soundness of the final decision of the judge-advocate general of the State, action should have been withheld until every point had been decided. True, the company and regiment might have suffered for want of proper officers; but an innocent party, who in all faith accepted an office in the 13th Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., would not now be seeking information as to his status in the State forces. As the case stands at present, there are two captains of Co. I, 13th Regiment, one with the commission of Governor Dix, J. F. Rathbone, Adjt.-Gen., and the other with the commission of Governor Robinson, J. B. Woodward, Adjt.-Gen. Under the late decision, as published from general headquarters, what becomes of the captain whose commission bears the signature of Governor Robinson, General Woodward?

AN EXAMPLE AND A WARNING.—When, in 1877, West Virginia was found without protection—no militia—it was supposed that every State in the Union would at once see that internal troubles, riots, etc., could be suppressed by home force. Yet now, nearly three years later, we find the State of Maine in the same predicament. This time, instead of labor riots, it is politics, and the governor is without adequate force to support the laws of the State and United States and the decisions of the courts. The right or wrong of the party in power we do not pretend to discuss. Yet when, from Vermont to California, each and every State is perfecting its home forces, we find a State with but one regiment, armed with the 45 and 50 calibre Springfield rifles, the old-fashioned muzzle-loader, and the antiquated Enfield, while its solitary battery has the oldest and very worst of smooth-bore guns: it must be acknowledged that the lesson of years is forgotten or overlooked. In case of riot in Maine, the General Government will be called on for troops to protect the lives and property of its citizens, and if not furnished promptly, we will hear the usual "howl" at the delay in transportation of the United States forces. We most sincerely hope that Maine will not be inflicted with political riots; but if, through the action of party, its citizens are forced to arms for self-protection, they will in future learn the necessity of keeping properly equipped and ready for immediate service a force of National Guard. They will have learned in 1880 what West Virginia was taught in 1877.

RHODE ISLAND.—Co. D, 3d Battalion, Infantry, Capt. Spencer, was inspected by Gen. C. B. Dennis, at Apponyan, Dec. 13, parading 3 officers and 36 men, arms and equipments in fair condition. This command needs more attention to details of drill, and more time should be occupied in correct instruction. Discipline slack and set up careless.

Co. C, of the 3d Battalion, Infantry, Capt. Allen, was inspected at East Greenwich, Dec. 15, parading 3 officers and 35 men. This command has made rapid strides in proficiency during the past year. Their arms were found in most excellent condition, and discipline, manual, marchings and general set up much improved in every respect. The material of the rank and file has changed decidedly, and now the company stands well socially, and will receive the encouragement of the citizens.

Co. F, 2d Battalion, Capt. Rittman, was inspected by Gen. C. B. Dennis, at Pawtucket, Dec. 16, parading 3 officers and 40 men. Arms and property in good order. Discipline of company excellent and drill generally good.

Co. B, 5th Battalion, Infantry, appeared for inspection in their armory in Providence, Dec. 23, parading 29 muskets and 2 officers. Property in excellent condition. The ceremony was gone through with in a creditable manner, and the drill in the school of the company and manual was uniformly good. Col. Moran, commanding battalion, was present, and Capt. Alexander, of the 1st Infantry, with other guests, enjoyed the fine appearance of the company.

A knapsack, shoulder-brace, waist-belt, plate and cartridge-box have been adopted by the Quartermaster-General's Department from the "Sherlock" pattern, and the same has been submitted to the Chief of Ordnance, U. S. A., to be by him approved. A requisition for one thousand has been forwarded to Washington, and will be approved and furnished by spring, it is hoped. This article of equipment is much needed, as at this time none are in possession of the State.

ILLINOIS.—There being a conflict at the Stock yards, near Chicago, between the "Union" laborers and their employees, on the question of the employment of non-union men by the latter in the packing houses, the sheriff of Cook county swore in a large posse to protect the property of citizens and preserve the peace. Fearing that he might not be able with his force to check the possible riotous excesses of the strikers, he called upon the Governor for aid with the military arm. Accordingly, late on Christmas day, the captains of companies of the Chicago commands were notified to have their men report for duty in the respective armories at 7 o'clock A. M. the next day. All the commands had a good share of their men present at 8 o'clock.

At the armory of the 1st Infantry, out of an aggregate of less than 600 men, over 300 had reported at 8 o'clock, which, considering the difficulty of finding men to notify them on Christmas day—the fact that the thermometer ranged 10 below zero, and the want of proper uniform clothing for winter campaigning, appears very creditable.

The scent of "riot" in the air brought in many men that had been rather negligent of late in attendance upon regular drills. The most discouraging feature in this matter was the not infrequent refusal of employers to allow their men to report for duty. Many of the houses are engaged in taking stock; and as their ox was in no danger of being gored, they preferred to keep their men at work.

At eleven o'clock orders came to dismiss the men until seven in the evening, at which time the commands assembled again in nearly their full strength.

Fortunately, however, peaceful counsels, superinduced by the knowledge that the officers of the law were wide awake and ready to enforce obedience, prevailed; and the strikers concluded that discretion was the better part of valor. The commands were all dismissed, with the caution to look out for the alarm call by the fire bells.

All the commands are now busily engaged in perfecting their efficiency, and weeding out their worthless timber and generally improving their morals. There seems to be a disposition all around to reduce muster-rolls to the number of men actually available. Under the rulings of Judge Barnum, it is doubtful whether a sentence of court-martial under the military code would be valid, and pending a reversal of that decision by the Supreme Court, no attempt has been made to discipline men in that manner. Hence the only way to rid the Service of bad material is to discharge "for the good of the Service."

On Monday evening, Dec. 22, the line officers of the 1st Infantry were assembled to elect a major, vice Tilden, resigned; but the meeting was adjourned for two weeks, without taking a vote for a successor. Immediately after adjournment, all the officers and men present in the armory gathered in the room of Co. H, where Col. Edgar D. Swain, commanding the regiment, was cited to appear. Major Truman W. Miller, Regimental Surgeon, then addressed the colonel on behalf of officers and men, presenting him with a life-size half-length oil painting of himself in full regiments. The painting is from the easel of Arthur Pickering, and was painted by him as an exhibit in the Interstate Exposition here. The surprise was complete to the colonel, as he supposed he had purchased the picture himself as a Christmas present for his wife, and had made a payment to bind the bargain.

The social season is now in full blast; Cos. A and D of the 6th Battalion have each given their annual parties; and Co. B theirs on the 30th, and all proved pleasant and enjoyable affairs.

Battery D give their first annual reception on January 13. The 1st Infantry have inaugurated a series of five parties which come on alternate Saturday nights; they promise to be not only excellent in a social way but also lucrative to the regimental coffers. The rifle range of this organization is a pretty lively place evenings just now, as preparations for several contests are going on, of which the Army and Navy will be advised when they take definite shape.

The Cadet Corps of the regiment had a full dress inspection, reception, flag presentation, and competitive drill on Saturday, December 27, at which the armory was crowded with the elite of the city. Gen. Strong made the presentation speech, telling these youths of the history of the flag and of the many struggles for the maintenance of its supremacy. In an individual contest for being the best drilled cadet, Corp. Wheelock won the plated rifle offered by Quartermaster Bangs.

Adjt.-Gen. Hillard has called a convention of officers to assemble at Springfield January 6, to deliberate upon a bill shortly to be introduced in Congress having for its object increased legislation in behalf of the militia of the several States and increased appropriations for arming and equipping the service.

FIELD ARTILLERY FOR GEORGIA MILITIA.—The sub-committee of the House Committee on Militia, to whom was referred the resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to furnish the Cherokee artillery company of Rome, Ga., with a battery of field artillery and equipments, have agreed to report favorably upon the bill, with an amendment that the Secretary of War be authorized to loan to said company a battery of four guns with equipments, and take a bond for their safe keeping and return when called for. Gen. Benét, chief of ordnance, has assured Representative Spear, chairman of the sub-committee, that he can readily supply the guns and equipments.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

—In the New Jersey National Guard armory rifle practice will be resumed, commencing January 5. The instructions and regulations announced in Circular Orders No. 1 will be strictly adhered to. Ammunition and supplies will be furnished by the chief of ordnance at the rate of ten rounds per man per month, taking the last quarterly return as a basis.

—Co. K, 14th New York, has been compelled to invoke the aid of the civil courts to recover State uniforms from deserters. The men were committed to await the action of the grand jury, and it is to be hoped that an example will be made.

—Co. B, 71st New York, Capt. S. Curtis, held a grand New Year reception, musical and dramatic entertainment, assisted by the "Crestomathean Comedy Company," at the Lexington Avenue Opera House, January 2.

—GATLING Battery E (Washington Greys) is making rapid progress in the new drill. On Tuesday of each week Capt. Baker, assisted by his lieutenants, instruct by sections, after which sabre drill is taken up. The new sabres issued to the battery are pronounced a great improvement over the old cavalry sabres.

—Who will be the new Assistant Inspector-General of Rifle Practice S. N. Y. is still agitating the members of the 1st Division. Capt. Robbins, I. R. P. 7th; Maj. Story, Co. A, 23d; Maj. Farr, 11th Brigade, and Col. Cowperthwaite, the present incumbent, are mentioned as the men. Either officer would be most satisfactory to the National Guard.

—The 13th New York (Brooklyn) will drill by wing at its armory on January 5 and 6, and commissioned officers Janu-

ary 8. The regiment will parade for review and presentation of marksmen's badges January 28.

—LIEUT.-COL. ROBERT A. LAGGETT has been appointed Assistant Inspector-General Michigan N. G.

—COL. SCOTT, 8th New York, is actively engaged in the formation of a new company for his regiment, and hopes to have it mustered in this year. The new company is a New Year's gift, from the regimental chaplain, J. C. Anderson, and was inspected by Gen. Briggs on Dec. 30.

—THE 12th New York will commence division drills at its armory with the New Year, as follows: Cos. A, F, and K, Jan. 12 and 28; G and H, Jan. 13 and 27; B, E and I, Jan. 16 and 29, at 8 o'clock. The field officers are to act as instructors and the lieutenants will act as adjutants. The non-commissioned officers will drill at the armory January 21.

—CHARLES ROSENBERG, Co. G, 14th New York, has been awarded the company gold medal for recruiting the greatest number of men during the past year. This is the second medal he has won.

—THE sixteenth annual reunion of the Vermont officers will be held at the Town Hall, Brandon, Vt., on Thursday, January 8, at 4 o'clock P. M. The oration will be delivered by Col. John R. Lewis, U. S. Army, in the evening banquet, at 10 P. M. Members of the society, and all Vermont officers and non-commissioned officers of the Army and Navy, are invited to attend.

—DURING the overhauling of the books and records of the Adjutant-General's office S. N. York, lately made by General Woodward, it was found, much to his astonishment, that the regimental fund annually allowed to the State organizations under sec. 178, Military Code, was overlooked one year, and it is his intention to make good the amount ere retiring from the department. This will be a wind fall to the regiments of the State.

—COL. VAN CLEVE, of the Adjutant-General's office, Minnesota, has opened a correspondence with the War Department at Washington for the purpose of effecting, if possible, a change of the Springfield infantry rifle now in possession of the State for breech-loaders of the latest pattern.

—THE 1st Brigade of Ohio militia was under arms at Cincinnati December 21, prepared to move to the stock yards, where a strike was in progress.

—A NEVADA boy, who for the first time in his life saw a military company out for a drill in Virginia City, with rifle and drum, gave his mother the following account of the business: "A little man blowed on his squealin' stick, and a big man that stood beside him hammered on his thunder box, then the boss man pulled out a big long knife and shook it at the fellers what was standin' up in a long row, and they all walked off on two legs."

—THE Artillery Corps Washington Greys, the oldest infantry company in the State of Pennsylvania, gave their annual New Year's Eve entertainment and banquet December 31. The corps has of late undergone various changes, having been formed into a battalion, then consolidated into the 3d regiment, and now as an original corps parade as Co. G of the 1st regiment, under Capt. E. Z. Kienzie.

—THE Veteran Association of the 32d regiment have elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Daniel Kreuder, president; Charles Parker, vice president; Alois von Kofler, recording secretary; Charles Waage, financial secretary; Abraham Plant, treasurer; Fred J. Karcher, S. R. Blumcke and John Schwarzbach, trustees.

RIFLE PRACTICE.

NEW YORK STATE.

The annual report of the General Inspector of Rifle Practice S. N. Y. for the year ending December 1, 1879, will be found of interest not only to its author's immediate constituents, the National Guard of New York, but to the militia of other States and to the Regular Service. When, in the second year of the existence of Creedmoor, some of the regiments of New York and New Jersey sent picked teams to practice over the short and mid ranges, few indeed imagined that ere the commencement of 1880 systematic rifle practice would have so firmly established itself. "One man wounded is equal to three men killed," simply because it takes the two whole men to carry off the one wounded. But where troops have no knowledge of the science of rifle practice, the wounded men are few and far between, while the hits are more the result of accident than design. This might have applied to America's forces, Regular and militia, some five years ago; but what a wonderful change has taken place. Now the average soldier, even with his limited practice, can without much effort bring down his man at any distance between 200 and 600 yards; while in the militia of many States the degree of proficiency attained in the use of the rifle is truly wonderful. To the organization of the National Rifle Association, and the perfect system of practice introduced by Gen. George W. Wingate, General-Inspector of Rifle Practice S. N. Y., are we indebted for this extraordinary change. The soldier and his rifle are now identified, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, whether at Army post or rifle club range, the soldiers of the country, Regular and Volunteer, are systematically taught the use of their weapons from the A B C of the garrison or armory to the full scores of the mid range.

In the opening pages of his report Gen. Wingate alludes to the reduction in transportation and ammunition of the past year as a reason for the apparent falling off in the figure of merit of some organizations, and with regard to others states that the non-compliance with regulations, causing the disallowing of scores, is the reason of the falling off. The rifle ranges of the State are fully described, only one being added since last year. He strongly objects to large ranges, but urges the necessity of small accessible grounds which will permit of practice up to 600 yards. The system in present use has been found to work most satisfactorily, and being thoroughly understood by officers and men, not only of this but of other States, should not be changed. In advocacy of the present class practice he says: "Up to the present time the general instruction of the National Guard has not progressed sufficiently to justify their being regarded as drilled soldiers, and being required to fire at the longer distances, and a separation into the two classes, cannot be made until the majority who have attained sufficient skill is so large as to render such division a matter which can be carried out without undue labor and complications."

Of the improvement in marksmanship, the reports received show that 17,251 men have practiced this year as against 17,623 in 1878, 13,313 in 1877, 10,946 in 1876, and 7,670 in 1865, while the number of marksmen this year, even with the drawbacks referred to, are 3,641 as against 3,059 in 1878, 2,126 in 1877, 918 in 1876, and 533 in 1875, the increase from last year being sixteen per cent. The number remaining in the first class in 1879 is 858 as against 793 last year; in the second class, 2,524 as against 3,152; in the third class, 2,155 as against 2,573, and in the fourth class, 7,973 as against 8,049. These figures show steady progression in each of the classes. A table of the figure of merit of each organization

is given as the result of the year's practice. By this table it will be seen that the independent companies lead the regimental organizations, the gain being ascribed to the interest taken by their officers. This is clearly a false premise, for the interest taken in the cities in all military duty is much greater than that taken by country organizations. The reason should more properly be ascribed to the small number of men required to practice, the proximity of their company ranges, and the amount of time at the disposal of the men during certain seasons of the year; whereas in the city, men are always actively engaged in their business avocations, while the ranges are as a rule from five to thirteen miles distant from the armories, necessitating the loss of a full day for regular class practice. Properly these separate companies should be tabulated by themselves, and not placed with regimental organizations. In calling attention to the great improvement in several regiments, notably the 7th, the General, unfortunately, omits to state that to the monthly matches at Creedmoor, more than to regular class practice, is due their large number of marksmen and consequent high figure of merit. Men should not be allowed to compete for the marksman's badge until they have passed through the intermediate classes. The practice may have its advantages, but it seems most unjust and should be remodelled.

Of the discipline maintained at Creedmoor the General speaks in high terms; while the amalgamation of the Regular Army and militia teams during the fall meeting was most valuable, the discipline of the Army being an example to the National Guard organizations practicing on the range. He strongly urges armory rifle drill during the winter with indicator practice, and ascribes the high figure of merit of several companies to the steady work of the drill season, which is shown to such good advantage on the range.

The limited amount of ammunition issued this year has put a stop to volley firing, a fact greatly to be regretted, as this practice would be invariably used in all conflicts in cities, which is the duty most likely to be called on from the National Guard, while in battle it is of great value. It is therefore to be hoped that during the coming year particular attention will be paid to this branch of practice. The estimating of distances has also been greatly neglected, necessarily from the limited time of the men on the range, and in aid of these branches the General urges camps of instruction where both may be used to the advantage of the troops.

The amount of ammunition expended during the year was: 70 grain cartridges, 671,280; armory 44 cal., 71,500; 22 cal., 5,000, and the General states this amount is inadequate. He further states that the amount of ammunition issued should be sufficient to permit of thorough class firing, and also for the proper practice of the teams forty rounds per man is not sufficient for this purpose, and he recommends the issue of at least sixty rounds per man. He also condemns the present system of issuing transportation, and recommends the return of the old system of sending an officer of the Ordnance Department with each detachment, instead of the issue of tickets to the organizations. A complete review of the International Inter-State and National Guard Matches, with the record for the Nevada Badge, is added to the report. In surrendering the control which he has had for the last five years over the instruction in rifle practice and taking leave of the National Guard, Gen. Wingate says: The system pursued and even the existence of the office which I have had the honor to hold, being novel, the performance of the duties connected with it have been a matter of peculiar difficulty and delicacy. Unquestionably many mistakes have been made. Many ideas have been adopted from time to time which were found not to work satisfactorily when tested, and had to be abandoned. But by constant experiment, abandoning what was found not to be satisfactory, and adhering to those measures which were found to give success, a system has been established in these five years which is now in thorough working order, and which is conceded to have placed our National Guard in advance of all military organizations in the United States in that most important branch of the soldier's duty—the use of the rifle. In doing this, while many warm friends have been made, doubtless unpleasant feelings have been sometimes excited among those who have been affected by the course which has been taken. This has been a matter of regret, but was inevitable under the circumstances. It is hoped that those feelings have become dispelled by time, or, if they still exist, will be mitigated by the thought that in the work or organizing and developing the system the only idea entertained has been the general advancement of the National Guard, with no personal feeling against any one and with an earnest desire to interfere with the routine and duties of all organizations and of all commanding officers to as little extent as was possible under the circumstances.

Priv. J. H. CROWLEY, Co. C, 13th New York, is the last winner of the Briggs medal, open to past and present marksmen of the regiment, under direction of the regimental I. B. P. Matches are held on the last Saturday evening of each month.

The armory rifle practice 12th New York, will be commenced during the first week in January. The range is being refitted and placed in most complete order. During the season the several companies will compete for prizes, and company team matches will be commenced which will be carried on out doors during the summer. The practice will be under the direction of Capt. A. T. Decker, I. B. P.

In circular of December 20 Maj.-Gen. Hancock publishes extracts from recent reports of rifle firing by companies in the Department of the East, which exhibit a high degree of proficiency. The scores of Batteries B, C, E, H, and M, 1st Artillery; Battery B, 2d Artillery; Batteries F, G, and K, 3d Artillery; and Cos. A, E, and H, 10th Infantry, show that great attention to this matter has been paid by battery commanders. Want of space this week prevents us from giving the names of those whose scores were the highest, but we hope to be able to publish this interesting circular in full at an early day.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"MANY LIEUTENANTS AND SUBSCRIBERS" ask why par. 1204 of the Revised Statutes (which provides that "promotions in the line shall be made through the whole Army in its several lines of artillery, cavalry, and infantry respectively") has not been carried out in the case of lieutenants as well as among those of a higher rank. If such is the law why is par. 20 of the Army Regulations ("promotions to the rank of captain shall be made regularly") in conflict with it? By what authority has this regulation been in force since 1814 when the law above quoted has been in existence since that year? and if promotions among lieutenants regimentally since 1814 have been unlawful, what remedy is there to make things right? ANSWER.—Section 12 of the act approved March 30, 1814, provided "That from and after the passing of this act promotions may be made through the whole Army in its several lines of light artillery, light dragoons, artillery, infantry, and riflemen respectively; and that the relative rank of officers of the same grade, belonging to regiments or corps already authorized, or which may be engaged to serve for five years or during the war, be equalized

and settled by the War Department agreeably to established rules." The "established rules" referred to in this act are found in Army regulations of 1813, which prescribed that "original vacancies will be supplied by selection; accidental vacancies by seniority, excepting in extraordinary cases." "Promotions to the rank of captain will be made regimentally; to that of field appointments, by line; the light artillery, dragoons, artillery, infantry, and riflemen, being kept always distinct." In the Revised Statutes, section 1204, the words "agreeably to established rules" are omitted, but it is held by good authority that the "promotion" referred to in that section undoubtedly means advancement according to seniority under the established rules set forth in the regulations of 1813. If space would permit we would quote the acts of 1812 and 1851, resolution of 1778, Secretary of War McHenry's letter of 1800, and the regulations of 1863, all bearing upon this point and upholding the view that promotion shall be regimentally to the rank of captain. The highest authorities having apparently thus decided, it is difficult to see what "remedy" you could obtain. It might be obtained, but the difficulty is obvious.

We have received a letter at this office addressed to R. S. W.

DORES asks: 1st. What is the name of the candidates at West Point and Annapolis from the First District, New Jersey and Maryland? 2d. Where can a Register of the Cadets at West Point be procured, and is there a Revenue Marine Register, and where can it be got? 3d. Is there a place in New York where Navy Registers are sold? ANSWER.—1st. Write to the members of Congress from the districts in question and they will doubtless inform you as to the names of the candidates. 2d. A Register of Cadets can doubtless be procured from the Adjutant of the Military Academy, and of the Revenue Marine, from the chief of that division, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. 3d. D. Van Nostrand, book publisher, Murray street, New York city, has, we think, Navy Registers for sale.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Novoye Vremya*, writing from Tchikislar, says that, according to official reports, only about 300 of the 6,000 camels which set out with the Russian expedition against the Turcomans are still alive, the surviving animals, moreover, being so reduced that they are almost sure to perish.

THE German soldiers while on sentry duty are well looked after in Berlin at any rate. They are allowed, says the correspondent of the *London Times*, to wear their great wide neck-laps whenever the weather is inclement, be it summer or winter, and during the continuance of such a cold time as the present each sentry box is provided with a pair of large, thick, and warm felt shoes, easily slipped on by the man on duty over his ordinary boots, and handed over by him to the relief. Warm gloves are, of course, also furnished.

GERMAN papers announce the death at Cassel of Major Philip Wetzel, a veteran of the Napoleonic wars, at the age of ninety. He made the campaign of 1812 with the Russians against the French, and was present at the battles of Smolensk and the Moskowa and the passage of the Beresina, and served in the subsequent operations down to the occupation of Paris by the allies. His mental faculties were vigorous to the last.

It is stated that as soon as the *Duilio* is completed, another large vessel carrying guns equally as powerful as those of the colossal *Italia* and *Lepanto*, though fewer in number, will be laid down.

ENGLAND'S difficulty is Russia's opportunity, and it is to be expected that Russia will now strain every nerve to regain ground lost in her Turkistan campaign, to move, this time, with success, against Merv, to spur the Heratians to determined resistance to the British advance, and finally to occupy northwestern Afghanistan first if possible. Russia is making extensive preparations on the Caspian Sea and elsewhere to take the field in the spring with overwhelming numbers.

MR. E. J. REED, C.B., M.P., the designer of the Chilean ironclads which captured the *Huascar*, has received the following letter from his Excellency the Chilean Ambassador to France and England: "Chilian Legation, Paris, Nov. 17, 1879. Dear Sir: I am very happy to inform you that his Excellency the President of Chili, in a telegram sent to the Chilian Legation at Buenos Ayres and conveyed to me by the last mail, speaks in high terms of the excellent qualities shown by the two ironclads, the *Almirante Cochrane* and the *Blanco Encalada*, in their engagement with the *Huascar*. The *Blanco Encalada* sustained no damage at all, and the *Almirante Cochrane*, that took the principal part in the fight, was but slightly injured, both giving proof of their handiness and strength in a very remarkable way. His Excellency directs me to congratulate you as the designer of these vessels, and I am very happy that, after having followed your professional advice in adopting their type, and after having intrusted to you the superintendence of their building, I am now charged with the very pleasant mission of giving you this testimony of the complete success attained by your professional skill. Believe me to be, with very high consideration, yours faithfully, A. BLEST GANA."

CAPT. KIRCHHAMMER, of the Austrian General Staff, publishes in the *Austrian Military Gazette* a very elaborate account of Germany's preparations on her north-eastern frontier against a possible attack by Russia. The writer maintains that the line of defence in this quarter, formed by the Tregel, the Vistula, the Netze, the Werthe, and the Oder, is almost impregnable. "From the year 1871," he says, "the German War Department has been laboring with equal activity and skill at the completion of the three great defensive systems of which Königsberg, Thorn, Posen, and Breslau are the centres." The permanent camp at Königsberg is an imposing example of the modern art of fortification, and even greater care has been bestowed upon the more important line of Posen-Thorn. The last-mentioned town has been made so strong that in German hands it would prove almost invincible. The conclusion of the writer is that the friendship, or neutrality, of Austria would be of the greatest value to Russia, as an invading Russian army would naturally advance against Prussian Silesia; but

it could only do so with the permission of Austria. If, on the other hand, Germany wished to act on the offensive, her first step would be to occupy Russian Poland. This she could only do if her flanks were secure. Her left flank is covered by the Baltic, but her right, unless Austria were friendly, would be threatened from Bohemia. Thus each of the two powers would need the assistance of Austria if it contemplated an attack on the other.

ACCORDING to the estimate of the actual strength of the Turkish army contributed to the Russian *Golos* by its correspondent at Constantinople, the troops present with the colors in August last amounted to 200,000 men. This army was composed of nizams, or men of the regular or standing forces; of redifs, or men of the reserve—the mustaphiz, or men of the territorial militia, having been discharged, as well as the redifs recruited in Bulgaria or Eastern Roumelia. In September 31,000 men of the first class of redifs were also sent home, and, as their dismissal was completed by the end of last month, there are not at the present moment more than from 160,000 to 170,000 men in the ranks of the Turkish army. When the correspondent of the *Golos* wrote, the Turkish War Office intended, immediately the redifs of the first class had been all discharged, to likewise dismiss the redifs of the second and third classes. Should this step be carried out, the actual effective of the Turkish army will be reduced to under 80,000 men, and the troops with the colors will be all nizams.

"It is more than probable," says the *Broad Arrow*, "that the war effective of Austria for the next ten years will be fixed at 800,000 men. Of course this does not represent the number of men who will be actually under arms during that time, but it is quite clear from the above that Austria does not intend to drop out of the race as far as spending money on big armaments is concerned."

THE *Broad Arrow* tells the following story of the sad consequences to a young English naval officer which came from his drinking too much wine at the dinner table of Admiral Inglefield: "It appears that a lieutenant of one of the ships was invited to dine with the Commander-in-Chief at his official residence at Halifax, and while at table he is said to have shown signs of having imbibed too freely. Charges were directed to be framed, together with an application for his trial by court-martial for this offence, and tried he was, the sentence being reduction to the very bottom of the list of his rank and dismissal from his ship. It is said that the sentence was carried out, and that the officer is now in England, and knocking loudly at the doors of 'My Lords' of the Board of Green Cloth in Whitehall. The story is a very remarkable one, and in the name of the roast beef of old England we desire to hear more. We may assume that Admiral Inglefield must have been hard put to it before he permitted his hospitality to be overshadowed by this heavy sentence upon an officer who sat at his table. What could the officer have done? Could he have suggested the dancing of a hornpipe upon the admiral's table? Could he have ventured to dispute with the admiral upon the philosophy of 'the cat'? Is it possible that he hinted that promotion was slow, and that the 'poor lieutenant' had many wrongs to be redressed? May we assume that he 'old-fellowed' the admiral and 'old-boyed' the admiral's flag-captain, or suggested that the Admiralty port was a little brackish; or, failing to commit any direct offence against the etiquette of the service, he simply transgressed against modern usage by going to sleep in his chair and slipping under the table? In any event, the offence, no doubt, was unpardonable; but then, what about the sacred laws of hospitality? Many admirals have entertained their juniors at dinner; many bottles of fine old 'ditto' have been consumed, and the guests one after another have hiccupped their farewell to the gallant host, and nothing resulted from it worse than a bad head in the mornings."

A REVIEW of the troops in St. Petersburg has been held by the Czar to commemorate the institution of the Order of St. George. His Majesty was received by the men with enthusiastic cheers. A dinner was afterwards given in the Winter Palace, at which the Emperor proposed the health of the Emperor William, the oldest knight of St. George, who, he said, had borne the cross of the Order for 65 years. The toast was received with much cheering. His Majesty afterwards complimented the young soldiers of the army on the courage they had displayed in the last war; and in conclusion he expressed the hope that Russia would be able to develop her resources in the paths of peace, and have a happy and a glorious future.

IN conformity with the provisions of sec. 134 of the British Army Discipline and Regulation Act, a soldier will forfeit the whole of his pay without residue when in hospital on account of sickness certified by the proper medical officer attending on him to have been caused by an offence committed by him. The offences for which this liability will be incurred on the part of the soldier will be found to fall generally under one of the following heads: Malingering, wilful maiming, wilful aggravation of disease or infirmity, drunkenness, attempt to commit suicide, acts to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, offences against the civil law.

Now that the nature and extent of the advantage which accrues to a man-of-war from the possession of great manœuvring power has been once again strikingly demonstrated in actual warfare, it may be opportune to note that the sum of 20,000 dollars is being at the present time expended in fitting a Mallory propeller to the United States torpedo-vessel *Alarm*, with a view of testing the value of the invention. It is claimed for the new propeller that it will very greatly increase the manœuvring power or handiness of vessels fitted with it, since it allows the whole energy of the main or driving engine to be instantly used for steering purposes and then instantly restored for driving purposes. The Americans have long recognized the advantages which must be gained by a vessel which can engage with an enemy end on, and a propeller like the Mallory (if it proves on

further trial that the invention is as successful as there is every reason to anticipate that it will be from the result of preliminary experiments already made on a small scale will greatly facilitate keeping even a large ship always bows on to her adversary. The *Alarm* herself is a vessel which has been specially designed to fight in this position. She carries one gun to fire right ahead. She is provided with a ram so constructed that it will strike a hostile ironclad below the armor of the latter; and she is fitted with a system of torpedo spars so arranged that they can be run out by steam power, when their ends will project thirty-one feet in front of the ram. Engaging always bows on, therefore, the *Alarm* is intended, as she gradually closes with her enemy, to use—first, her gun, then her torpedoes, and finally her ram.—*Broad Arrow*.

TORPEDO BOAT ACCIDENT.—A serious collision occurred in Stokes Bay between the *Herrschaff*, torpedo boat, and the tug *Manly*. One of the Thorneycroft boats and the American boat, which has already met with several accidents during her steam trials, were ordered to proceed to the measured mile in Stokes Bay for a comparative trial of speed, and for experiments in circle turning and other steam tactics. The preliminary trials were gone through without a hitch of any kind, and the vessels satisfactorily answered all that was expected of them on the mile. Capt. Wells then gave orders for steam tactics to be proceeded with, the object being to still further test the capabilities of the boats in turning. He directed several manœuvres, which were satisfactorily executed, and then, by means of a hand signal, ordered the American boat to make a short circle round the tug. In order to do this her engines were reversed, and she proceeded at full speed astern in the direction of the tug. The order to "go

ahead" was then given, but from some cause or other yet to be explained the boat did not answer, and she drove on to the *Manly*, striking her on the starboard quarter about six inches above the water line, and about a couple of feet forward of the towing rail. At first it was feared that the damage occasioned by the collision was so great that the vessels must sink, or at any rate must be beached. Boats were lowered, and there was plenty of assistance to perform the necessary work of preventing the water entering the tug. An examination on the inside showed that the stern of the torpedo craft had made a clean cut 13 in. by 10 in. through the side of the vessel, and the iron work was found several inches within the berth of the chief engineer. Through the force of the collision the tug was lowered on the starboard side, and for a time shipped a small quantity of water, but swabs were used to plug the fracture, all moveable gear, including towing hawsers, chains, etc., having been placed on the port side, she heeled over to such a degree as to render all danger of her taking in water impossible. With considerable difficulty the vessels were separated, and it was then discovered that the torpedo-boat had sustained some very serious injuries to her rudder and stern. To convey some idea of the force with which the *Manly* was struck, we may add that the torpedo-vessel was steaming at about the rate of 15 knots per hour, and that the tug was lying motionless at the time.—*Army and Navy Gazette*, Dec. 13.

SIR WILLIAM PALLISER maintains that his loose, coiled, wrought-iron barrels, placed in casings which are in a state of repose, will give more of what engineers call work than steel tubes, which, being tightly bound up on the outside, place a permanent bursting strain on the gun.

Two old French wooden frigates, the *Mogador* and the *Orénoque*, are to be broken up.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* says the following superiority of the several military firearms may be fairly gauged by these figures: Greatest range, Chassepot, 2,777 metres; Gras, 2,880 metres; Mauser, 2,850 metres; Vetterli, 2,750 metres; Berdan, 2,800 metres; Beaumont, 2,777 metres; Martini-Henri, 2,775 metres; Pieri, 3,025 metres. Number of parts in mechanism: Mauser, Vetterli, and Martini-Henri, 28; Chassepot and Gras, 26; Berdan, 25; Beaumont, 24; Pieri, 7. As to accuracy, the Pieri stands far before any other arm, as trials carried out on different occasions conclusively prove.

A NAVAL officer, writing from Valparaiso, states that of a large number of English sailors among the crew of the *Huascar*, upwards of 30 had passed through the gunnery ships *Excellent* or *Cambridge*. Many of them were deserters from the English navy. One was formerly midshipman in the Navy, but, failing to pass the examination at Greenwich College, he joined the service of the Argentine Republic as lieutenant, but threw up his commission and shipped as able seaman on board the *Huascar* in order to see some active service. He added also that nearly all the killed on board the *Huascar* in the engagement were English or Americans, and that they, too, did nearly all the fighting. The Peruvian portion of the crew having, after the death of Admiral Grau, who, it is mentioned, is of English descent, deserted their stations, and devoted themselves to pillaging the cabins of the officers.

The German squadron, which, in view of the possible outbreak of war between the Chinese and Japanese, has been despatched to the waters of Eastern Asia, is, says the *Cologne Gazette*, often called an "ironclad squadron."

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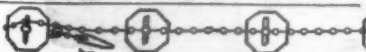
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There are, however, no ironclads among these vessels. The corvettes *Prins Adalbert*, *Louise*, and *Vineta*, and the gunboats *Cyclop* and *Wolf* are only iron vessels with wood covering, or simply wooden vessels. The only German iron-armored vessel on foreign service is the *Hansa*, which has been sent to protect German interests in the war between Chili and Bolivia and Peru.

THE Austrian Minister of War has given orders for a number of telephones to be experimentally placed in the fortress of Cracow. The object, it is stated, is to secure a more uniform and more rapid transmission of orders than is possible even with the electric telegraph, verbal orders, as a rule, being also more effective. At present, only a portion of the works are to be provided with telephones, their general introduction being delayed until experiments in the fortress itself have established, or otherwise, their practical value for military purposes.

THE *United Service Gazette* (London) say: The use of the fish and other self-propelling torpedoes is a reproach on the country using them, ourselves, of course, included. There should be an international law, abolishing such cowardly but murderous implements. There is more pluck in using an explosive bullet even than in

using a fish torpedo, which can be sent forth without danger to the sender, but against which all the higher qualities of bravery and its concomitants are unavailable.

A TELEGRAM is said to have been received by the Chilean government from Mr. Reed, the constructor of the Chilean ironclads, promising to send full instructions to repair any damages that they may have received. It is added that when news of the *Huascar's* trips reached Europe Mr. Reed telegraphed to the Chilean *Chargé d'Affaires* in Paris, asking if the Chilean ironclads had disappeared, or if they were commanded by men totally ignorant of their mechanism and power. He could not understand why they did not sink the *Huascar*. For him it appeared a question of five minutes firing.

In spite of the sharpest rivalry, the "St. Nicholas" hotel, of New York, has retained its pristine importance and has the most powerful hold on the public. The rates have been reduced in accordance with the times, but the standard of the hotel has been even made higher than before. A restless ambition to make this the perfection of modern hotels has kept up the rank to the highest, and no public house is more quoted at home

and abroad. Table, apartments, furniture, and attendance, are simply beyond criticism.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages and Births FIFTY CENTS each, and the signature and address of the party sending must accompany the notice.]

FLETCHER-KINNAB.—At Little Rock, Arkansas, Dec. 25, 1879, by the Right Rev. Bishop Fitzgerald, at St. Andrews' Cathedral, 1st Lieut. E. L. FLETCHER, 13th U. S. Infantry, to Miss JOSEPHINE KINNAB. No cards.

HAMMOND-STEVENS.—At Vergennes, Dec. 17, 1879, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Geo. E. Hall, Lieut. C. L. HAMMOND, of Crown Point, N. Y., to MARY E. STEVENS, eldest daughter of Herrick Stevens, Esq., of Vergennes.

DIED.

[Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.]

CROSS.—On Tuesday, Dec. 18, after a long illness, MARY BRADLEY, widow of the late General Osborne Cross, U. S. A.

NOKES.—At Washington, D. C., on December 21, 1879, of heart disease, Mrs. ELIZA NOKES, aged 72 years, mother of Capt. N. L. Nokes, U. S. M. C., stationed at Marine Barracks, Mare Island, Cal.

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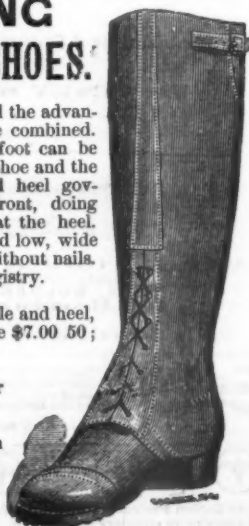


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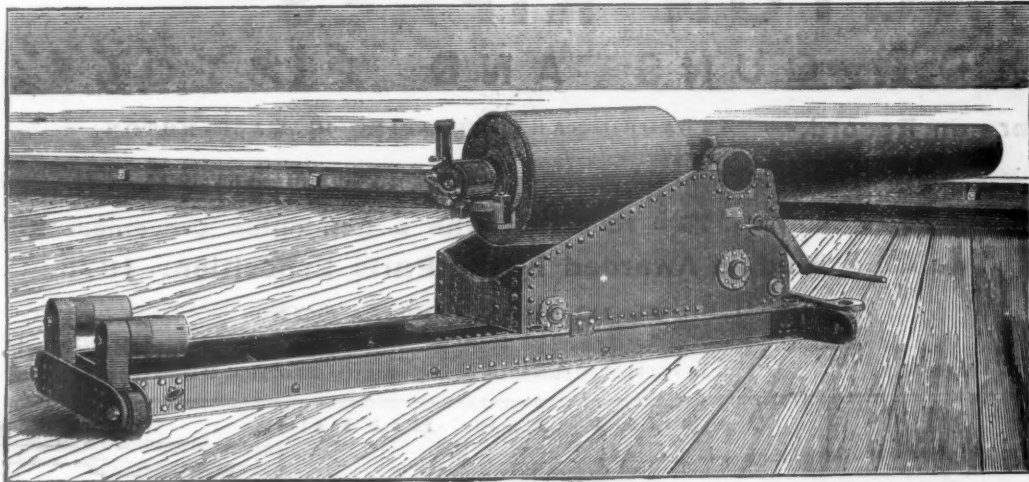
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